

Elizabeth II
1926-2022

A royal life



The Guardian

A royal life

Inside 40-page
supplement

David Hare on the second Elizabethan age

Anne Glenconner on the Queen she knew

Saturday
10 September 2022
£3.50
From £1.85 for subscribers

The Guardian

'I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty and love'



● King Charles acknowledges his role must change

● William and Kate become Prince and Princess of Wales

Caroline Davies

King Charles III pledged yesterday to serve the country "with loyalty, respect and love", during an emotional address in which he paid tribute to his mother the Queen, saying: "May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

Speaking with "feelings of profound sorrow", he said: "Queen

Elizabeth's was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept, and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today."

In a speech that reflected his transition from heir to the throne to monarch, he also acknowledged his life must change. He spoke of the "roles and duties of monarchy" and the sovereign's relationship with the Church of England, in which his own faith is rooted.

▲ King Charles III outside Buckingham Palace yesterday after arriving in London from Balmoral
PHOTOGRAPH: TOBY MELVILLE/REUTERS

"I have been brought up to cherish a sense of duty to others, and to hold in the greatest respect the precious traditions, freedoms and responsibilities of our unique history and our system of parliamentary government," he said.

"As the Queen herself did with

Inside



Charles's speech
His words in full [Page 3](#)

A day of mourning
Crowds gathered all around Britain [Page 4](#)

Your guide to the coming days
What happens next?
[Pages 6 and 7](#)

The new king
How the new court might look [Page 16](#)

The Commonwealth
'Queen was more than a figurehead' [Page 22](#)



such unswerving devotion, I too now solemnly pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants me, to uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation."

He added: "My life will of course change as I take

2 →



9 770261 307569 36

10/09/2022

Inside your
Saturday paperCryptic crossword
*Journal page 12*Killer sudoku
*Journal page 12*Puzzles and quick
crossword
*Pages 61-62*Weather
Page 63

Contact

For missing sections call **0800 839 100**.
For individual departments, call the Guardian
switchboard: **020 3353 2000**.
For the Readers' editor (corrections
& clarifications on specific editorial content), call
020 3353 4736 between 10am and 1pm UK time
Monday to Friday excluding public holidays, or
email guardian.readers@theguardian.com.
Letters for publication should be sent to
guardian.letters@theguardian.com or the
address on the letters page.



Guardian News & Media, Kings Place, 90 York Way,
London N1 9GU. 020-3353 2000. Fax 020-7837 2114.
In Manchester: Centurion House, 129 Deansgate,
Manchester M3 3WR. Telephone Sales: 020-7611 9000.
The Guardian lists links to third-party websites, but
does not endorse them or guarantee their authenticity
or accuracy. Back issues from Historic Newspapers:
0870-165 1470 guardian.backissuesnewspapers.co.uk.
Published by Guardian News & Media, Kings Place,
90 York Way, London N1 9GU, and at Centurion House,
129 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WR. Printed at Reach
Watford Limited, St Albans Road, Watford, Herts
WD24 7RG; Reach Oldham Limited, Hollinwood Avenue,
Chadderton, Oldham OL9 8EP; Reach Saltire Ltd,
110 Fifty Pitches Place, Glasgow G51 4EA; and by
Irish Times Print Facility, 4080 Kingswood Road,
Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24. No. 54,759,
Saturday 10 September 2022. Registered as a newspaper
at the Post Office ISSN 0261-3077.

Death of Queen Elizabeth II
1926-2022'I shall endeavour to serve
you with loyalty and love'

Continued from page 1

up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others."

To his oldest son, William, Duke of Cambridge, who now inherits Charles's title of Duke of Cornwall, he added another. "Today, I am proud to create him Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear during so much of my life and duty," Charles said.

"With Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping

to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given.

"I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas," he said in the address, pre-recorded at Buckingham Palace earlier yesterday.

But it was when paying tribute to his mother that he was at his most emotional. "Her dedication and devotion as sovereign never wavered, through times of change and progress, through times of joy and celebration, and through times of sadness and loss," he said.

"I pay tribute to my mother's memory and I honour her life of service. I know that her death brings great sadness to so many of you and I share that sense of loss, beyond measure, with you all."

The first glimpse of a grieving

Charles as king was as he departed Birkhall, his private home at Balmoral, to travel to London.

Dressed in mourning black, he and Camilla, the new Queen Consort, were seen being driven to Aberdeen airport from the Scottish estate where they had rushed to be at his mother's bedside on Thursday.

At Buckingham Palace, the royal standard was raised for the first time in his reign. Hundreds gathered outside gave three cheers and shouted "God save the King" as he arrived in the state Rolls-Royce and began shaking hands with countless wellwishers offering condolences.

Joined by his wife, he viewed the floral tributes that had been left outside Buckingham Palace's gates. "I have respect for him. He walked all the way along to see the people and

back to see the flowers. It's what the people wanted to see, which is great," said Joyce Curtis, 72, visiting from Jersey. "He's got a job on his hands," she added.

Though he automatically became king on the death of his mother, a moment he told one wellwisher outside the palace he had dreaded, he will be formally proclaimed King Charles III at a historic Accession Council this morning, swearing and signing a declaration and oath in an ancient ceremony being televised for the first time.

He held his first in-person audience with the prime minister, Liz Truss, at Buckingham Palace yesterday afternoon.

It was a day of royal gun salutes. The Death Gun Salute of 96 rounds, one for each year of the Queen's life, was made from Hyde Park, the Tower of London, and other firing stations across the UK.

Several thousand people gathered in Hyde Park as 71 horses galloped into position for the 16-minute salute. The crowd watched in a silence so profound "you could hear a pin drop", one person said.

Bells tolled in cities, towns and villages at cathedrals, parish churches



▲ Charles III and the Queen Consort arrive at Buckingham Palace to greet a large crowd of wellwishers

PHOTOGRAPH:
DAVID LEVENE/
THE GUARDIAN

▼ King Charles paid tribute to his mother, the Queen, his wife Camilla, and reached out to Harry and Meghan in his address to the nation

and chapels. Condolence books were opened at libraries, churches, and town halls and online on the royal family's website.

Flowers were piled so high that special designated flower areas were created near royal residences for the bouquets, personal notes and candles placed by wellwishers.

"Devotion" and "duty" were the watchwords as tributes continued to flood in from around the world. Among them, a letter from the Dalai Lama to the King telling him: "Your mother lived a meaningful life with dignity, grace, a strong sense of service and a warm heart, qualities we all should treasure."

The Corgi community had "lost part of our world", lamented Kay Hogg, secretary of the Welsh Corgi League's Scottish sector.

Truss, whose official appointment this week was one of the final public constitutional duties carried out by the Queen, led tributes in a crowded and emotionally charged House of Commons, its green benches populated by MPs dressed in black.

She was "the rock on which modern Britain was built", Truss said. Heralding "our new Carolean age" – a term first used in the reign of Charles I – she said of the King: "Even as he mourns, his sense of duty is clear."

Her predecessor Boris Johnson, who was speaking from the backbenches, described the late monarch as "Elizabeth the Great". At their last meeting, when she accepted his resignation, he said, she was as "radiant and knowledgeable and as fascinated by politics" as ever, "when she saw off her 14th prime minister and welcomed her 15th".

As a period of royal mourning for the family was announced to extend seven days after the Queen's funeral, the Duke of Cornwall and Cambridge, as William is now known, departed early afternoon for Windsor to prepare for the Accession Council.

An earlier departure from Balmoral was the Duke of Sussex, who had arrived alone after other members of the family on Thursday, and who departed Balmoral for Heathrow at 8.15am. His wife, Meghan, is at Frogmore Cottage, Windsor, with the couple now expected to extend their planned week-long stay in the UK until after his grandmother's funeral.

As Charles addressed the nation, a congregation of 2,000 members of the public joined the prime minister and senior ministers for a service of remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral.



Full text of the King's speech 'This is a time of change for my family'

I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow. Throughout her life, Her Majesty the Queen – my beloved mother – was an inspiration and example to me and to all my family, and we owe her the most heartfelt debt any family can owe to their mother; for her love, affection, guidance, understanding and example.

"Queen Elizabeth's was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today.

"Alongside the personal grief that all my family are feeling, we also share with so many of you in the United Kingdom, in all the countries where the Queen was head of state, in the Commonwealth and across the world, a deep sense of gratitude for the more than 70 years in which my mother, as queen, served the people of so many nations.

"In 1947, on her 21st birthday, she pledged in a broadcast from Cape Town to the Commonwealth to devote her life, whether it be short or long, to the service of her peoples. That was more than a promise: it was a profound personal commitment which defined her whole life. She made sacrifices for duty.

"Her dedication and devotion as sovereign never wavered, through times of change and progress, through times of joy and celebration, and through times of sadness and loss.

"In her life of service we saw that abiding love of tradition, together with that fearless embrace of progress, which make us great as nations. The affection, admiration and respect she inspired became the hallmark of her reign.

"And, as every member of my family can testify, she combined these qualities with warmth, humour and an unerring ability always to see the best in people.

"I pay tribute to my mother's memory and I honour her life of service. I know that her death brings great sadness to so many of you and I share that sense of loss, beyond measure, with you all.

"When the Queen came to the throne, Britain and the world were still coping with the privations and aftermath of the second world war, and still living by the conventions of earlier times.

"In the course of the last 70 years we have seen our society become one of many cultures and many faiths. The institutions of the state have changed in turn. But through all changes and challenges, our nation and the wider family of realms – of whose talents, traditions and achievements I am so inexpressibly proud – have prospered and flourished. Our values have remained, and must remain, constant.

"The role and the duties of monarchy also remain, as does the sovereign's relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England – the church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.

"In that faith, and the values

it inspires, I have been brought up to cherish a sense of duty to others, and to hold in the greatest respect the precious traditions, freedoms and responsibilities of our unique history and our system of parliamentary government.

"As the Queen herself did with such unswerving devotion, I, too, now solemnly pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants me, to uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation.

"And wherever you may live in the United Kingdom, or in the realms and territories across the world, and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.

"My life will, of course, change as I take up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply. But I know this important work will go on in the trusted hands of others.

"This is also a time of change for my family. I count on the loving help of my darling wife, Camilla.

"In recognition of her own loyal public service since our marriage 17 years ago, she becomes my Queen Consort. I know she will bring to the demands of her new role the steadfast devotion to duty on which I have come to rely so much.

"As my heir, William now assumes the Scottish titles which have meant so much to me.

"He succeeds me as Duke of Cornwall and takes on the responsibilities for the Duchy of Cornwall, which I have undertaken for more than five decades.

"Today, I am proud to create him Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear during so much of my life and duty.

"With Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given.

"I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas.

"In a little over a week's time we will come together as a nation, as a Commonwealth and indeed a global community, to lay my beloved mother to rest.

"In our sorrow, let us remember and draw strength from the light of her example.

"On behalf of all my family, I can only offer the most sincere and heartfelt thanks for your condolences and support.

"They mean more to me than I can ever possibly express.

"And to my darling Mama, as you begin your last great journey to join my dear late Papa, I want simply to say this: thank you.

"Thank you for your love and devotion to our family and to the family of nations you have served so diligently all these years.

"May 'flights of Angels sing thee to thy rest'."

First address What the monarch said and why it was important

Robert Booth

King Charles III's first speech to the nation as sovereign contained telling passages showing how he hopes the public will see his reign and how he wants the royal family to operate.

● *He said: "Queen Elizabeth's was a life well lived; a promise with destiny kept and she is mourned most deeply in her passing. That promise of lifelong service I renew to you all today."*

On one level this was a simple reminder of the continuity he intends to project with his mother who was widely admired for her focus on service rather than rule. Tellingly he referenced her pledge to the people of all Commonwealth countries in 1947 that "my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service". A key priority will be keeping the Commonwealth together.

● *"As the Queen herself did with such unswerving devotion, I too now solemnly pledge myself, throughout the remaining time God grants me, to uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation."*

The key phrase here is "the remaining time". Charles, 73, knows he will not reign as long as his mother.

● *"In the ... last 70 years we have seen our society become one of many cultures and many faiths. The institutions of the state have changed in turn. Whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love."*

These two sentences projected a clear recognition of a new era, in which he will reign over an ever more ethnically and religiously diverse nation.

● *"My life will of course change as I take up my new responsibilities. It will no longer be possible for me to give so much of my time and energies to the charities and issues for which I care so deeply."*

Here he alludes to setting aside the causes – such as climate change, classical architecture, alternative medicine, youth work and inter-faith dialogue – that have sometimes caused public controversy.

● *"I want also to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas."*

Here was an olive branch to his youngest son and daughter-in-law whose departure from royal life has been marked by continuing acrimony. It was one of several expressions of open emotion during the speech in which the King also said: "I count on the loving help of my darling wife, Camilla" and finished with a Shakespearean sign-off to his "darling Mama" when he wished: "May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest".



Death of Queen Elizabeth II
1926–2022

4

Britain mourns

No hysteria, just quiet respect as crowds gather in remembrance

Daniel Boffey
Chief reporter

The stream of people, bouquets in hand, hugged the palace tight. Slowly, dutifully they skirted the perimeter wall of Buckingham Palace and its 16 hectares of gardens in what seemed to be inexhaustible numbers, some among their number perhaps a little self-conscious and awkward, others proud of being part of the moment, happy to catch the eye of those around them.

From Birdcage Walk, at the south-east edge of the palace, clockwise the thousands went, flowing by the palace estate, around Hyde Park Corner and on to Constitution Hill, to emerge in an orderly fashion, guided by

polite police officers in traditional helmets, so they might lay their floral tributes in front of the famous front gates or tie them to the black railings.

On completing their pilgrimage, the mourners joined a heaving crowd at the Victoria Memorial, refreshed by ever more people as the day went on, from every walk of life, of every age and ethnicity.

Among this cross section of British society, a scattering of wide-eyed children, hoisted high on to shoulders or pushed in buggies. Told that they were witnessing something they would remember for the rest of their lives; that school could wait today.

But what will they remember? It won't be tears and overwhelming grief. There wasn't much of that. This was not the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Not a tragedy of that type. No hysteria or anger

► *King Charles and Camilla, the Queen Consort, look at floral tributes left outside Buckingham Palace*

PHOTOGRAPH:
YUI MOK/POOL/AP



▲ Tributes left outside the gates of Buckingham Palace. Mourners joined a crowd from all walks of life, of every age and ethnicity that grew as the day went on PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN SIBLEY/REUTERS

or anyone to blame. What will then pierce the consciousness of a young child about the end of the second Elizabethan era? It might be the sweet smell that filled the air: the roses, tulips, peonies and sweet peas, bouquets big and small. Neatly, tidily, some still in freshly cut plastic wrapping, spread out in front of the palace. Often with notes of appreciation. Expressions of thanks, of respect. "We are so grateful for your dedication and wonderful example," read one.

It might be the gentle murmur of the crowds, quite peculiar in a mass of people so large, or that when the heavens briefly opened no one left. That those in front of the palace, where a teenage Princess Elizabeth had slipped into the crowds with her sister, Margaret, on VE Day 77 years ago, merely buttoned up their coats and opened their umbrellas as one. It was an immediate canopy that disappeared almost as quickly as it had appeared. An astronaut above would have witnessed it as a slow-motion wink from the centre of London.

Or might a young child at the palace today remember in the years

'For most of us, she's the only monarch we have known ... she's kept the royal family going through thick and thin'

Trevor Skerrett, 59
Windsor

to come the peculiar sight of men and women lifting their phones in the air, like periscopes poking out from the ocean of people, trying to catch their very best image or video of the extraordinary scenes? Or the red tunics of the soldiers guarding the empty palace? Many among the crowd said they were most moved, however irrationally, by the emptiness of the famous balcony.

The arrival of the new king at the palace in his royal Bentley may also make a mark on a young mind. Shortly before 2pm, King Charles III, fresh from Balmoral and the death bed of his late mother,



▲ Some of the thousands of people who arrived at the gates of the palace yesterday morning. Many left flowers bearing messages of appreciation PHOTOGRAPH: ANTONIO OLMOS/THE GUARDIAN



▲ Charles talks and shake hands with wellwishers at the palace gates

stepped out of the car with his wife, Camilla, the Queen Consort, to greet and shake the hands of some of those outside the Palace for the first time as monarch.

One woman gave the new king a peck on the cheek. Charles then took time to view the floral tributes, placing an arm around his wife, before walking on through the gates as a bugle sounded.

The royal standard - raised only when the monarch is in residence - was flown for the first time to mark Charles's presence. "God save the king," some shouted. But most kept quiet.

Respectful solemnity was the order of the day as it was elsewhere in the UK as people reflected on the loss of a constant in their lives.

Gun salutes took place in Hyde Park, at the Tower of London, Cardiff Castle, Edinburgh Castle and Hillsborough Castle, and in York, Portsmouth and Gibraltar. A round was fired every 10 seconds, with 96 to represent each year of the late monarch's life.

There was a spontaneous round of applause from those gathering in Edinburgh. Jan White, 56, was one of hundreds of people who stopped to watch the gunfire salute on the busy Princes Street. "It was moving, it was touching," she said.

Yet, even in royal residences where no formal events were planned, the people came.

In Windsor, Trevor Skerritt, 59, from Guildford, said he had felt drawn to visit to pay his respects because of what he believed the Queen represented. "For most of us, she's been the only monarch we have known," Skerritt said. "She has given us solidity, she's kept the royal family going through thick and thin."

In Balmoral, two monks from the Theravada Buddhist centre in Aberdeen, dressed in orange-brown robes, took a bouquet of sunflowers to the gates. "After the second world war, the country was in a difficult time," said Sujana, 45, a monk originally from Nepal. "She was a figurehead, someone you can trust. You can't trust politicians."

In parliament, the prime minister, Liz Truss, nevertheless sought to capture the moment, reflecting that for many, if not all, this was a moment to take stock and to reflect.

"On the death of [the Queen's] father, King George VI, Winston Churchill said the news had stilled the clatter and traffic of 20th-century life in many lands," the prime minister told the House of Commons. "Now, 70 years later in the tumult of the 21st century, life has paused again."

Last visit Monarch did seem frail, but her clarity was 'amazing'

Libby Brooks

Scotland correspondent

One recent visitor to Balmoral has described how the Queen's evident frailty was eclipsed by her vital conversation and "amazing" memory.

The Right Rev Dr Iain Greenshields, the moderator of the general assembly of the Church of Scotland, visited the Royal Deeside estate last weekend, where the Queen spoke to him about the peace she enjoyed at Balmoral and her sustaining faith.

"When I first saw her I was struck by how frail she looked," said Greenshields, who had dinner with her on Saturday and lunch on Sunday.

"But as soon as she sat down, she was immediately into conversation, welcoming, and the whole atmosphere changed. You were aware that you were with somebody who was with you and with it 100%."

"As the conversation progressed, you were also aware you were with somebody who had done their homework. She just was absolutely engaged with good conversation, asking about my family, and the one thing that stood out was [her] memory."

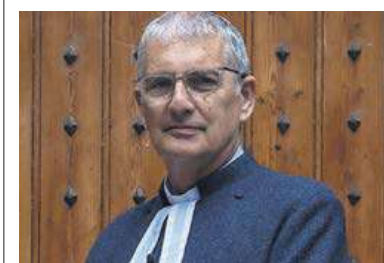
"For somebody of her age to have the clarity of looking back to the past and remembering the things that she did was amazing. She didn't need prompting by anybody around her."

The Queen's passion for her Highland surroundings came across "very, very strongly", he added. "She said it gave her a great deal of peace and pleasure to be at Balmoral. She wandered over to the window and she was looking out, explaining to me the garden and how it had developed."

The pair also discussed the "very personal interest" she took in the Church of Scotland - she wrote annual letters to be read at the general assembly meeting. "She understood the issues that affected the church and the challenges that were before us," said Greenshields.

He said that reports on Thursday about her declining health came as a shock after he bade farewell to her on Sunday, when she was "very positive, on good form after lunch".

He brought a gift of a tactile wooden cross, made by prisoners at HMP Glenochil from recycled church pews. "Her leaving the room holding that cross will be my enduring memory," Greenshields said.



▲ Right Rev Dr Iain Greenshields of the Church of Scotland



Guide to the days ahead

What happens now?



◀ The Queen Mother's coffin in Westminster Hall in 2002
PHOTOGRAPH: PHIL NOBLE/PA

members of the royal family are expected to stand guard around the coffin, the tradition known as the Vigil of the Princes.

Day by day

The formal events that will lead up to the funeral

Caroline Davies

Today
The accession council meets at St James's Palace in London to formally proclaim Charles as the new sovereign. The privy council gathers first without the King to proclaim him as the new monarch. Charles then holds his first privy council, accompanied by Camilla, the new Queen Consort, and William, who are also privy counsellors, and makes his personal declaration and oath. Proclamations are made at the City of London. Charles will then hold an audience with the prime minister and the cabinet. The Queen's coffin remains at Balmoral.

Tomorrow
Proclamations in the devolved nations are expected to be simultaneously made at noon in Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast. The Queen's coffin is expected to be moved by hearse from Balmoral to the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh by road, to rest there until the following day.

Monday
A ceremonial procession is expected along the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh. It is thought there will be a motion

of condolence at Westminster. The King will begin visits over coming days to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as part of Operation Spring Tide - the plans for Charles's accession to the throne.

Tuesday
The Queen's coffin is expected to be flown to London and to lie at rest at Buckingham Palace. A rehearsal for the ceremonial procession will be held in London.

Wednesday
Today will see the first big ceremony in London as the Queen's coffin is borne on a gun carriage from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall for her lying in state.
A short service in Westminster Hall is expected to be attended by members of the royal family.
The lying in state begins, with hundreds of thousands of people expected to file past the coffin to pay their respects over the next five days until the morning of her funeral. At some stage, senior

Thursday
The Queen's lying in state in Westminster Hall continues.

Friday
The King continues with visits to the UK nations, and meetings in London. The Queen's lying in state continues, and is expected to end on the morning of her funeral.

Sunday 18 September
Heads of state and members of foreign royal families are expected to start arriving in London for the state funeral.

Monday 19 September
The Queen's state funeral is expected to take place at Westminster Abbey. Her coffin is expected to be transported on a gun carriage pulled by naval ratings from Westminster Hall to Westminster Abbey, with members of her family processing on foot behind. The service will be televised, and a national two-minute silence held.
After the funeral, the Queen's coffin will be taken to Windsor Castle for a televised committal service.
The coffin will be lowered into the royal vault, and her final resting place will be the King George VI memorial chapel at St George's Chapel, Windsor.
A private burial interment service will be attended by senior members of the royal family.

St James's and Westminster form the backdrop for a series of mourning rituals

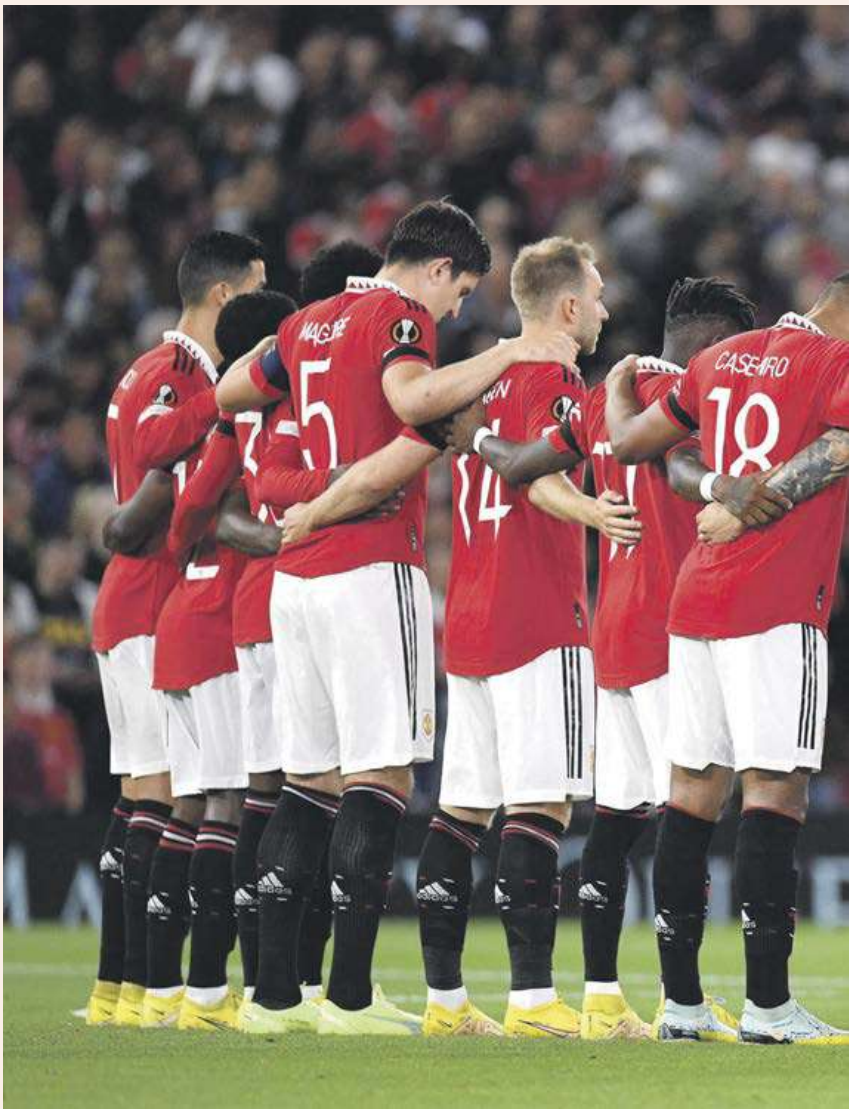
1. **St James's Palace**
First public proclamation of King Charles III

2. **Buckingham Palace**
The Queen's coffin will lie at rest before being borne by gun carriage to Westminster Hall

3. **Westminster Hall**
The coffin will lie in state for five days with vast numbers of people expected to file past

4. **Westminster Abbey**
The Queen's funeral will take place in the Abbey where she was crowned in 1953

Image: Google Earth. Image data: Landsat/Copernicus



Closures

What will happen to schools and businesses?

Ben Quinn and Dan Sabbagh

Will there be a bank holiday?
People involved in planning for businesses and other organisations have long expected that the day of the funeral - expected to be Monday 19 September - will be treated as an unofficial bank holiday, with some companies closed and workers sent home.
The period of mourning began yesterday and lasts for 10 days. Those in the public and private sector involved in planning a response to the Queen's death are expected to be flexible and give employees the day off if they are particularly upset.

What will happen during the period of mourning?
The government has released guidance saying there is no need for businesses to close or sporting events to be cancelled during the national mourning period.

It added that some business owners and event organisers may wish to consider closing or postponing events, especially on the day of the funeral.
The London Stock Exchange opened as normal yesterday morning after the Queen's death.

Will schools close?
The Department for Education has said schools and colleges in England should remain open during the mourning period.
In a message to principals and heads, the DfE said it would issue further guidance after details of the funeral had been confirmed by the royal household.
The DfE said: "Schools and further education settings should remain open. While normal attendance is expected, headteachers continue to have the power to authorise leaves of absence for pupils in exceptional circumstances."
It said schools may want to "consider conducting special activities, holding assemblies or adapting planned lessons" to commemorate the Queen's life during the mourning period.

Will trains be running?
Rail strikes that were planned for the 15 and 17 September have been called off. Preparations are under way for potentially unprecedented pressure on the transport network in London as large numbers of people converge on the capital before the funeral.
Government memos obtained by Politico in 2021 warned of a worst-



case scenario in which London became “full” as mourners flocked there, with accommodation, roads, public transport, food, policing, healthcare and basic services severely stretched.

As well as possible extra services being provided, visitors to London will see tributes to the Queen at stations with commemoration pictures and also, potentially, travel ambassadors who will help people as they go about their journeys.

Will theatres close?

Theatres are expected to remain open throughout the period of national mourning up until the funeral, although UK Theatre and the Society of London Theatres said lights would be dimmed for two minutes at 7pm each evening. National guidance states there is “no obligation to cancel or postpone events and sporting fixtures” during the period of mourning, leaving the decision up to individual organisations as to whether to go ahead.

Events clashing with the state funeral are much more likely to be put off, with the government suggesting, none too subtly, that organisers might postpone “as a mark of respect”.

Will shops close?

Most shops are expected to remain open, though some will close on the day of the funeral, particularly those close to the route of the procession.

The department store chain Selfridges shut its doors yesterday as it led business tributes to the

▲ *Manchester United pausing before playing Real Sociedad on Thursday*
PHOTOGRAPH: OLI SCARFF/AFP/GETTY

Queen. It said it intended to reopen stores today with their usual hours.

In major retailers, shoppers may find that promotions are not being pushed quite so loudly and in-store music will reflect the sombre tone of the airwaves.

“Make sure music in stores is appropriate and ensure that things are consistent with the national mood,” reads one piece of guidance, which adds that steps should be taken to ensure that flags are at half-mast.

What about government business and other institutions?

During the official mourning period, most announcements, visits and press releases will be paused.

Important information will still be communicated, but probably only on gov.uk. All civil servants who have public-facing or ceremonial roles will be asked to dress in mourning clothes.

The courts fell silent yesterday while cases were briefly brought to a halt as judges expressed their “profound sorrow” at the death of the Queen.

Among lawyers and court users who gathered in the Great Hall of the Old Bailey to observe a two-minute silence yesterday morning were some Old Bailey judges who wore “mourning bands” with dark lines around their necks instead of their usual collars. Traditionally, these are worn for the entire

mourning period but are not obligatory.

Local councils – where flags are flying at half-mast – are meanwhile opening books of condolences, including online. Portsmouth, Westminster, Swansea, Derby, Preston, Nottingham, Lancashire and Belfast councils are among those that have already set up books for local residents to sign.

Elsewhere, the Church of England website has opened an online memorial book and has encouraged people to light a virtual candle for the Queen.

Concern has been expressed by some in the arts sector after the Arts Council sent an email saying it was now reviewing funding application-related deadlines as it awaited further information.

The Arts Council said in the email it was waiting for further information on the public mourning period from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and would be in touch again.

What can we expect from broadcasters?

Broadcasters switched their programming to sombre music and pre-planned packages while official social media accounts for corporate brands, organisations and charities have been shifting to “dark” holding pages, sometimes just with messages of condolences to the royal family.

BBC One and ITV have made changes to their regular programming schedules in the wake of the Queen’s death.

The BBC broadcast rolling news coverage yesterday with a BBC News Special filling regular TV slots in between BBC News at One and BBC News at Six. Programmes including EastEnders, Homes Under the Hammer, Bargain Hunt, and Doctors moved from their usual channel and were airing on BBC Two throughout the day.

However, Channel 4 said that Gogglebox would air yesterday as planned as the broadcaster felt it would bring a “valuable sense of continuity” for many of the channel’s viewers.

A statement from a spokesperson said: “Channel 4 has made significant changes to our schedule, including added extended news coverage, to ensure that Channel



▲ *Schools in England are expected to remain open in the mourning period*

▼ *People pass by a giant billboard paying tribute to the Queen in central London yesterday*



4 is respectful following the news from Buckingham Palace about the death of Her Majesty the Queen. Channel 4 exists to offer viewers an alternative and that is particularly important at times like this. Gogglebox is a much-loved national institution and it will air as planned tonight bringing a valuable sense of continuity for many of our viewers.”

The websites and social media presences of corporate brands have already changed, while curators of social media accounts will be carefully considering output.

Visitors to some sites, such as that of Waitrose, were greeted yesterday with a picture of the Queen. Twitter and Facebook profiles for Waitrose, Tesco, Sainsbury’s have been changed to muted colours or are simply black and white.

What will the day of the funeral mean for daily life?

If events do go ahead on the day of the funeral, the government suggests that organisations may want to adjust timings so they do not clash those of the funeral service and associated processions.

It adds: “As a mark of respect, and in keeping with the tone of national mourning, organisers may wish to hold a period of silence and/or play the national anthem at the start of events or sporting fixtures, and players may wish to wear black armbands.”

Will London fashion week go ahead?

London fashion week, scheduled to run from Friday next week until the following Monday, is due to go ahead in a subdued form, although events scheduled for the day of the likely state funeral are expected to be rearranged.

The event organisers, the British Fashion Council, said “all non-core business events on the official schedule should be cancelled”, including parties and openings, as a mark of respect. Burberry cancelled its planned runway show next Friday.

What else has been cancelled?

Tomorrow’s Hackney carnival in London, a celebration of African-Caribbean culture, has been cancelled by Hackney council.

The National Television Awards will be rescheduled to next month. The prize ceremony was due to take place on 15 September at Wembley Arena but it will now be held on 13 October.

Sport

Football calls a halt but others play on in tribute

Sean Ingle
Chief sports reporter

Sports governing bodies yesterday revealed their plans to mark the death of the Queen, with some ordering a near-total halt, while others will proceed with events while acknowledging her death.

Football

Professional football matches this weekend have been postponed. The decision was announced by the sport’s authorities despite official guidance that there was no obligation to halt fixtures during the mourning period.

The Women’s Super League will not start as scheduled and there will be no grassroots matches in England, Wales and Northern Ireland – though they will be permitted in Scotland.

Cricket

England’s cricketers will take to the field for the third Test against South Africa at the Oval, with the England captain, Ben Stokes, saying he wanted to play in tribute to the Queen. “She loved sport, be honoured to play in her memory,” he tweeted.

The England and Wales Cricket Board confirmed that domestic and recreational fixtures will also resume after conversations with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. “Before each match, a minute’s silence will be observed followed by the national anthem,” it added. “All players and coaches will wear black armbands.”

Rugby

Rugby union and rugby league matches will resume today. The RFU, which governs rugby union in England, said the decision had been taken after consulting fans and clubs. “We hope that by enabling games and other rugby activity to go ahead this weekend, with families and friends congregating it will help us all to unite at this time of national mourning,” the RFU said.

Golf

The PGA championship at Wentworth will also resume. European Tour golf said it would hold a two-minute silence and make black ribbons available.

Athletics

The Great North Run from Newcastle to South Shields will go ahead tomorrow “in a way that will remain respectful of the Queen and the royal family.”



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

Biden to join world leaders for funeral set to be the UK's biggest security operation ever

Sam Jones and Kim Willsher

Leaders and monarchs from around the world will attend the Queen's state funeral in London later this month, congregating in Westminster Abbey for a solemn gathering on a scale seldom witnessed in recent decades.

The funeral, which is expected to take place on Monday 19 September in the same church where the Queen was crowned in 1953, will attract presidents, prime ministers, kings and queens as well as huge crowds from home and abroad.

The US president, Joe Biden, who described the Queen as "a steadying presence and a source of comfort and pride for generations of Britons", confirmed he would be among the senior world leaders to pay their last respects in person.

Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, has also signalled his intention to attend. He told reporters yesterday that he knew the Queen and had met her twice at Buckingham Palace. "If we find the opportunity we would like to be present at this ceremony," he said.

Members of Europe's royal families, from countries including Spain, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands, will also travel to the abbey for the funeral.

At least one leader, however, will be conspicuous by his absence. Although relations between the UK and Russia have been badly damaged by the latter's invasion of Ukraine, President Vladimir Putin offered his condolences to King Charles III.

"For many decades Elizabeth II rightfully enjoyed her subjects' love and respect as well as authority on



▲ Jacinda Ardern signing a book of condolence as, below, Washington flags fly at half-mast PHOTOGRAPHS: PETE MAROVICH/EYEVINE; MARTY MELVILLE/AFP/GETTY

the world stage," the Kremlin said in a statement. While "Russians respected her for her wisdom", it added, Putin's attendance at the funeral "is not being considered".

France's president, Emmanuel Macron, paid an unscheduled visit to the British embassy in Paris yesterday to sign the book of condolence for the Queen.

The British ambassador to France, Menna Rawlings, tweeted: "I warmly thank President Emmanuel Macron

for his visit to the British residence today to pay homage to Her Majesty the Queen in the name of the French people. His words and declarations have touched us deeply and gone straight to our hearts."

Bob Broadhurst, a former Metropolitan police commander, said the Queen's funeral would "almost certainly" entail the biggest security operation seen in the UK.

"Practically every nation on Earth is going to want to send their king, queen, prime minister or president for the funeral," he told the Press Association.

More than 8,000 guests descended on Westminster Abbey for the

Queen's coronation in June 1953, the first time the crowning of a new British monarch had been televised. Three million people also lined the street of London to catch a glimpse of the procession.

Among the dignitaries who attended the event were Winston Churchill; India's prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru; Pakistan's prime minister, Mohammad Ali Bogra; General George C Marshall - advocate of the eponymous postwar European recovery plan - who led the US delegation; and Colonel Anastasio Somoza Debayle, who would go on to become a dictator in his Nicaraguan homeland.

The Crown Filming stops on series five in tribute to the Queen

Alexi Duggins

Filming is to halt on the new series of the Netflix drama *The Crown* after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The fifth season of Peter Morgan's award-winning series, which dramatises the lives of the British monarchy, was under way when the Queen's death was announced.

"*The Crown* is a love letter to her and I have nothing to add for now, just silence and respect. I expect we will stop filming out of respect too," he told the news site Deadline.

This announcement was later confirmed by a source at Netflix and follows a 2016 comment by Stephen Daldry, one of the drama's producers, about the show having plans in place in the event of the Queen's death.

"None of us know when that time will come but it would be right and proper to show respect to the Queen," said Daldry. "It would be a simple tribute and a mark of respect."

Season five of *The Crown* will depict the early to mid-90s and features an entirely new cast, including Imelda Staunton as the Queen, Dominic West as Prince Charles, and Elizabeth Debicki as Diana, Princess of Wales. This will be the second change of cast to the show. In series one and two Claire Foy played a youthful version of the Queen, and Olivia Colman was cast in the role for seasons three and four.

The fifth series had been billed as the last in the critically acclaimed show, despite Morgan having initially conceived it as a six-series show.

Morgan said of the decision to call time on the programme, which has been watched by more than 73m households worldwide: "At the outset, I had imagined *The Crown* running for six seasons, but now that we have begun work on the stories for season five, it has become clear to me that this is the perfect time and place to stop. I am grateful to Netflix and Sony for supporting me in this decision."

The Proms Last Night called off for first time since war

Imogen Tilden

The BBC has cancelled last night and tonight's Proms. Tonight would have been the final night, the traditional celebration that concludes the eight-week classical music festival that takes place predominantly in the Royal Albert Hall.

Although the Last Night of the Proms programme was modified in 1997, after the death of Diana,



▲ The Last Night of the Proms is the traditional end to the music festival

Princess of Wales, and in 2001, after the 9/11 attacks, this is the first time since the second world war that the final concert has not taken place at all.

Thursday night's concert, the first of two due to have featured the Philadelphia Orchestra, was also called off, only half an hour before the event. An announcement was made at 7pm, and with much of the audience already at the venue, and the orchestra instead played the national anthem and Elgar's *Nimrod*.

The royal box remained empty and the curtain behind the seats was closed as a mark of respect.

Later that evening, the BBC announced that the season's two remaining Proms would not go ahead. Tonight's Prom was to have

featured the soprano Lise Davidsen and cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, with Dalia Stasevska conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

The BBC Proms said on Twitter: "Following the very sad news of the death of Her Majesty the Queen, as a mark of respect we will not be going ahead with Prom 71 on Friday September 9, or the Last Night of the Proms on Saturday September 10."

The monarch, who was a patron of the Royal Albert Hall, last visited the Proms in 2006 for a special concert to celebrate her 80th birthday.

Many people on social media questioned the BBC's decision and saw it as a missed opportunity to use the Last Night as a musical tribute to the Queen.



▲ Elizabeth Debicki, who plays Diana, on the set of *The Crown*

▼ Prince Harry is driven away from Balmoral alone yesterday morning. He was the first relative to leave

PHOTOGRAPH: MURDO MACLEOD/THE GUARDIAN



William and Harry return to Windsor apart as death prompts a change to royal titles

Rachel Hall
Jamie Grierson

The Queen's grandsons, the Duke of Cambridge and the Duke of Sussex, returned from Balmoral to Windsor yesterday to be with their families, where they are expected to remain until the Queen's state funeral.

Prince Harry left Balmoral in the morning. Kensington Palace said Prince William left after 1pm.

Harry was seen leaving at about 8.15am and is understood to have returned to London and then travelled on to his British residence, Frogmore Cottage in Windsor.

He had not been able to reach Balmoral until about 8.30pm on Thursday, two hours after the death of the monarch was announced, after travelling separately from his brother and other members of the family.

Both Harry and his wife, Meghan, are expected to remain in the UK to attend the Queen's state funeral, which is likely to be held on 19 September.

Harry had been nearing the end of a tour of Europe with Meghan and cancelled an appearance in London on Thursday at the WellChild awards, which honour the brave deeds of seriously ill children, to join close family members in Aberdeenshire.

He was seen leaving Balmoral, passing flowers that had been laid in tribute to the late monarch, and later yesterday morning boarding a British Airways flight at Aberdeen.



◀ Harry puts a comforting arm around a member of staff at Aberdeen airport as he prepares to board a plane to London

It is thought that William was also unable to see his grandmother before she died, although Buckingham Palace has not confirmed the time of death.

The involvement of Harry and Meghan in the funeral has provoked much speculation among commentators that it may be the first time they are reunited with the royal family after several tumultuous years.

Some reports have focused on the

fact Harry was the last royal to arrive at Balmoral, and the first to leave.

King Charles spoke about the couple in his address last night, saying: "I want to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas."

Neither Meghan nor William's wife, Kate, joined the other members of the royal family in Scotland.

On social media, some suggested that the greater criticism of Meghan's absence than of Kate's - she stayed in Windsor to care for their children, George, Charlotte and Louis on their first day of school - may be racist.

The homepage of Harry and Meghan's Archewell website turned black shortly after the Queen's death was announced, and carries a tribute: "In loving memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, 1926-2022."

It is not known when the couple will return to their home in California, where their children remain. The death of the Queen means that

the Duke and Duchess of Sussex's son, Archie Mountbatten-Windsor, becomes a prince as he is the grandson, rather than the great-grandson, of the monarch. His younger sister, Lilibet "Lili" Mountbatten-Windsor, is also entitled to be a princess.

Meghan had previously suggested the title was denied to Archie because of his race.

After the accession council takes place at 10am today - it is traditionally held within 24 hours of a monarch's death but was delayed because the Queen's death was announced on Thursday evening - William and Kate will be known as the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and Cambridge. William also becomes the Prince of Wales while his wife becomes Princess of Wales, a title most associated with William's late mother, Diana.

In his address, the King said: "I am proud to create [William] Prince of Wales, Tywysog Cymru, the country whose title I have been so greatly privileged to bear ... with Catherine beside him, our new Prince and Princess of Wales will, I know, continue to inspire and lead our national conversations, helping to bring the marginal to the centre ground where vital help can be given."

William inherits the Duchy of Cornwall, an estate of 60,700 hectares (150,000 acres) spread across 20 counties, with a reported annual income of £20m. A statement from the Duchy of Cornwall confirmed the transfer of ownership of the estate from Charles to William.

Cornwall Duchy created in 1337 passes from Charles to William

Joanna Partridge

With the accession of King Charles, his son Prince William becomes the heir apparent, the Prince of Wales and the 25th Duke of Cornwall.

Along with this title, he automatically inherits the Duchy of Cornwall, which has been an income stream for his father for over half a century.

This is thanks to the ownership of an estate of 52,000 hectares (128,000 acres), which also makes him one of England's biggest landowners.

The Duchy owns land across 20 English and Welsh counties, stretching from Devon to Kent, and Carmarthenshire to Nottinghamshire.

Much of the estate is farmland, but it also includes homes and commercial properties, forests, rivers, coastline and about one-third of the Dartmoor national park, which was once used for mining tin and copper.

Some of the more unusual holdings include the Oval cricket ground, in central London - which has been leased by Surrey County Cricket Club since 1874 - as well as Dartmoor prison. The Duchy's net assets were valued at more than £1bn in March.

The Duchy was created in 1337, when Edward III established a private estate that could provide independence to his son and heir, Prince Edward. A charter decreed that every future Duke of Cornwall would be the eldest surviving son of the monarch.

King Charles III was not only heir to the throne since the age of three, but was also the longest-serving Duke of Cornwall in history, having marked 50 years running the estate in 2019. He only took over running of the estate and became entitled to receive its full income at the age of 21.

Under his leadership, the estate's annual multimillion-pound revenue was used to fund Charles's "public, private and charitable activities", according to the Duchy's website.

He requested the estate was managed in a way that was "sustainable, financially viable and of meaningful value to the local community".

Charles also set up Duchy Organics in 1990. The food company struggled after the 2007 financial crisis, and was rescued when it signed a licensing deal with Waitrose in 2009. It now operates separately to the Duchy of Cornwall.



▲ A union flag flies at half-mast at the Duchy of Cornwall HQ in Dorset

"The Duchy of Cornwall estate is in safe hands. His Majesty passes [it] on much improved"

Statement
Duchy of Cornwall



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

PHOTOGRAPHS: SAM FROST; GRAEME ROBERTSON; CHRISTOPHER THOMOND (ALL THE GUARDIAN); LESLEY MARTIN/AP/GETTY



Cardiff



Belfast



Birmingham



Windsor

Mourners pay tribute 'Watching her through the years brings a lot back'

Birmingham

As she emerged from the Hall of Memory in Birmingham, where she had signed a book of condolence for Queen Elizabeth II, Eglon Harris was struggling to hold back tears.

"I can hardly talk about it, it's so hard," said the 64-year-old, a childcare provider who moved to the UK from Jamaica in 1969. "She was a year older than my mom, so she always put me in mind of her. Always wearing a hat, that was my mom. Always thinking of everyone else, that was my mom and the Queen was like that."

She said while the focus was currently on the UK, it was important to remember many countries will be affected by the news. "There will be a lot of grief in Jamaica," she said. "All the Commonwealth countries will miss her. Everyone will be mourning, it's

not just this country."

At an interfaith remembrance event in Birmingham's peace gardens, dozens of people gathered to lay flowers and wreaths. Iqtidar Cheema, 42, attended wearing a blazer that belonged to his grandfather, who served in the British army. "My grandfather always had stories to tell us about Great Britain and the Queen, so I always felt a strong affiliation with the monarchy ... she was not just a defender of one faith, but a defender of the faiths."

Manchester

The streets of central Manchester were unusually quiet yesterday as the city came to terms with the death of the Queen. Julie Iveson and Paige Eastwood travelled from Preston to sign the book of condolence at Manchester

Cathedral. "I know she was 96 but we weren't ready for this news," Iveson said. "She was a friend of Manchester, and Mancunians collectively share so many fond memories of her."

Eastwood was moved by what she described as an "incredibly sombre mood" in the city centre.

The pair were among dozens watching from under a shop



▲ Iqtidar Cheema at the service at Birmingham's Peace Gardens

canopy as the rain subsided and the lord mayor of Manchester, Donna Ludford, and leader of the city council, Bev Craig, laid flowers in St Ann's Square. Craig told gathering crowds: "The Queen has been there for the people of Manchester in our greatest moments - such as the Commonwealth Games and the opening of the BBC's base at MediaCity in Salford - and in our darkest days - such as the 2017 arena attack when she came to comfort survivors."

Ludford called her a "stoic woman" who "conducted herself with great dignity". Craig added: "In a divided society, we hope that the principles she embodied will help bind us together."

Belfast

Political leaders across Ireland and Northern Ireland hailed the Queen's role in applying balm to centuries of conflict between nationalism and unionism as one of the most consequential uses of her symbolic power.

Grief was most viscerally expressed in loyalist and unionist areas of Northern Ireland, where murals of the late monarch turned into shrines and gathering points for people to share memories.

Joy Crawford, 51, after laying a bouquet off Shankill Road in Belfast, said: "She meant everything, she was like a second

mum. It's very sad. We're not going to see her smile again." Her commitment to the crown remained undimmed. "It won't change what I am. I'll always be British," she said.

Julie Beckett, 55, said she felt devastated. "I don't think we've processed it. You always imagined she'd be here for ever. She was doing her duty to the very end."

Politicians on both sides of the border recalled her landmark visit to Dublin in 2011, when Irish people gave her a rapturous welcome, as well as her handshake in 2012 with Martin McGuinness, the IRA leader turned deputy first minister.

Sir Jeffrey Donaldson, the leader of the Democratic Unionist party, said people across Northern Ireland were deeply sorrowful, while Mary Lou McDonald, the leader of Sinn Féin, saluted the late monarch as an advocate for peace. "The Queen was part of very big changes. It is a very big loss," she told RTE.

The taoiseach, Micheál Martin, said the 2011 state visit, when the Queen spoke Irish and laid a wreath for Irish rebels, helped normalise relations. "That visit was a great success, largely because of the many gracious gestures and warm remarks made by the Queen."

Edinburgh

A huge security operation swung into action in Edinburgh as the city

**Edinburgh****Manchester**

prepared for thousands of well-wishers to line the Royal Mile when the Queen's coffin is brought to the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Edinburgh will become the focus of royal events over the coming days when the Queen's coffin is taken by road from Balmoral to Holyrood, followed by a ceremonial procession up the Royal Mile to St Giles' Cathedral.

Members of the royal family will attend a vigil at the 14th-century church, which is expected to be beamed to millions of viewers. The cathedral will then be open to the public for 24 hours for a period of lying at rest – not lying in state, as that will take place in London.

Michelle Ford, 60, a healthworker from Edinburgh, was among those paying tribute to the late monarch at Holyrood yesterday. "She was a great woman who served her country and the commonwealth and she



▲ Joy Crawford in Belfast wore a waistcoat with pictures of the Queen

never faltered," said Ford, who remembered going as a child to her uncle's house on the Royal Mile and watching her from his balcony.

"Like me she's a mother and a grandmother. I was very upset when I heard the news, I was crying. Watching her through the years brings a lot of things back."

Gail Vest, 62, from Canberra, Australia, laid a small posy of wild flowers. "I know the Queen loved wilderness so I thought she she would appreciate it" she said.

Cardiff

First in the queue at Cardiff castle to bag a good spot for the 96-round gun salute was Sara Rees, a 56-year-old radiographer, who waited patiently in the drizzle with her cockapoo, Teddy. Like many who attended, she had her own personal memories. "I first saw the Queen in 1977 at the time of her silver jubilee," Rees said. "She came to Neath when I was 11. She opened a leisure centre, visited a factory and then she went to Margam Park. We all had a day off school and went and saw her. Everyone loved her. Later I saw her at the Royal Welsh Show. She's the only queen we'll ever have in our lives. It's sad."

There is no official royal residence in Cardiff even though King Charles had the title Prince of Wales, which meant floral tributes were left all outside the castle

walls and on the steps of the Welsh parliament building, close to the entrance to city hall.

Ashley Manuel, 42, and Jasmine Maniraj, 39, from Reading, took their daughters, Stefna, 14, and Sabrina, 10, to the salute. Stefna said: "It's really sad she passed away, we were expecting her reign to last longer." Sabrina added: "I expected her to live to 99 or 100."

The Queen was a frequent visitor to Wales, attending formal government occasions as well as sporting events and the agricultural show. She was last in the capital to mark the official opening of the sixth Senedd in October last year.

One of the Welsh communities with the strongest link to the Queen is the valley village of Aberfan, 20 miles north of Cardiff, where 116 children and 28 adults died when an unstable coal tip perched high above a valley slid down the mountain, engulfing Pantglas junior school in 1966.

The Queen is said to regret waiting eight days before she visited the village but after she did, strong connections were forged. One of the survivors, Gaynor Madgwick, a child at the time, said yesterday that the Queen came to be thought of as "a mother" to the village.

Windsor

At Windsor Castle yesterday, crowds gathered outside the grounds, with many people laying flowers and handwritten cards by the King Henry VIII gate.

Among them was Beryl McAvoy, 81, from Ealing, who had come to the same spot 25 years ago to lay flowers after the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. "Thinking of the Queen, she was simply beautiful," said McAvoy. "She's always been there for everybody. It seems strange that she is not here any more. It's been a long time."

McAvoy, who was 11 when Princess Elizabeth became Queen, said she initially found it difficult to accept the news she had died. "I didn't believe it at first. It was really sad," McAvoy says. "But she died peacefully. She wasn't in pain or anything, which was nice, although she was getting frail."

Trevor Skerritt, 59, from Guildford, said he felt drawn to come to Windsor to pay his respects because of what the Queen represented. "For most of us, she has been the only monarch we have known," said Skerritt. "She has given us solidity. She has kept the royal family going through thick and thin." He added: "I actually don't think her passing away is simply just sad. She lived to 96, and she's lived a good life."

"She's quite an impressive person. Most people, when they think of the royal family, they don't just think of a monarch but they picture Elizabeth II. She's kind of been here for ever, so it's a big change in the country's structure."

Reporting team

Severin Carrell, Rory Carroll, Steven Morris, Sophie Zeldin-O'Neill, Jessica Murray, Tobi Thomas, Josh Halliday, Mark Brown

'Our generation all felt sad'

Do age or background put loss in different lights?

Geneva Abdul



Standing solemnly before Buckingham Palace, Kamala Thiagaras vividly remembered the day the Queen was married. Then a student, she had cakes, biscuits and chocolate to celebrate. "We will still remember her until we die. We were glad that we were there when she was Queen and she ruled us as we were in the Commonwealth," said Thiagaras, who is Sri Lankan.

But when she spoke to her grandchildren after news of the Queen's death emerged, Thiagaras, 80, said they did not express sadness. "Our generation, we all felt sad when we heard the news. But the children ... they think it's something that's happening, they're taking it as it comes along."

It was an exchange that exposed a generational fault line between older people commemorating an era-defining monarch, whose work ethic, sense of duty and stoicism they've known their entire lives, and a younger generation with whom the institution of the monarchy resonates less.

Despite the divide, the sentiment among the crowd outside the Queen's official residence was overwhelmingly loss and sadness.

Shahid Khan, a 19-year-old royalist from Cardiff, saw the generational rift as circumstantial. "With the younger generation, I guess we haven't got that situation to bring us together," said Khan. "I feel like that's a reason why they don't connect."

For many outside the palace, a figurehead they had long revered had vanished. Bentley Roach, 77, from Trinidad, had lived his entire life knowing the

▼ *Some of the younger visitors to Buckingham Palace add white roses to the floral tributes at the gates*

PHOTOGRAPH: DINENDRA HARIA/GETTY IMAGES



Queen. He said: "I'm from the Caribbean, a Commonwealth country, therefore people of my generation, we know nobody else. I feel loyalty to the monarchy. If countries become independent, it's the right of the people to choose where they want to go. I respect that."

By contrast, the Queen's death revived for some Britons conflicting emotions of a colonial past. "We have a bond to the Commonwealth, whether it's a good thing or not," said Viji, adding that the Queen's work ethic and sense of duty were values she identified with as a British-born Sri Lankan. "You can never forget the wrongs of the past. I have a lot to be grateful for this country, but I'm also conscious of my heritage and the struggles people have."

Others, such as Kylie Benson, whose family is from Belize, said the Queen was the "powerhead" of her community, whose reign had provided a sense of stability.

"She meant a lot to me and my family," said Benson, 32. "Coming from one of her Commonwealth countries, she's raised that country, and when that actually got independence it changed – to be honest the politics isn't as good as it was when it was under the Queen's reign. I always said if I was there I would vote against becoming independent."

For several younger adults, the emotional response to life without the Queen was less strong. "I think everyone's questioning the same thing," said Ellie Cheek, 21. "If the monarchy will continue for much longer."

For her friend Yele, 24, the monarchy had been a fixed point in British culture; but what did people think about its future? "That will depend on each individual person. I know for some people, like outside of the UK, maybe in like the Caribbean islands, they're ready to part ways with that. But I think it's difficult."



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022



▲ Soldiers of the Honourable Artillery Company at Tower Bridge fire a 96-gun salute PHOTOGRAPH: LESLEY MARTIN/AFP/GETTY

The transition Britain awakes to a new era as King returns to London

Amelia Gentleman



Britain got its first glimpse of King Charles III at around 12.14pm yesterday, as TV cameras filmed him exiting his car and pausing to talk to three Aberdeen airport officials before climbing the stairs into a small plane to fly back to London, accompanied by Camilla, the Queen Consort, with her head beneath an umbrella.

It was the least pomp-filled moment of a day punctuated by ceremonial events, as Britain made a historical transition to a new era. Crowds were gathering outside Buckingham Palace as early as 6.30am. Joggers, commuters on their way to work and a few people holding flags paused at the palace gates, jostling to take photographs of the black-edged official notice, secured to the railings, announcing that the Queen had died peacefully at Balmoral on Thursday.

When confronted by camera crews and microphones, many struggled to explain precisely why they had come, often concluding that they were there as they couldn't remember a time when the Queen was not the Queen.

Throughout the morning, businesses and events organisers tried to assess what the official period of mourning should actually mean



▲ Pictures on bus shelters in Edinburgh honoured the late Queen

in practical terms. Courts at the Old Bailey marked the moment by falling silent at 10am and some judges arrived wearing black fringed mourning collars; barristers at the courts were getting used to their new titles, which had already changed from Queen's Counsel (QC) to King's Counsel (KC).

A few of London's biggest shops including Liberty and Selfridges had decided not to open, as a mark of respect. By mid-morning the government had published national mourning guidance stressing that there was "no obligation on organisations to suspend business during the national mourning period" but adding that some businesses might "wish to consider" closing or postponing events, but this was at their dis-

cretion. Intended to clarify things, the guidance led to a muddled response; theatres said they would remain open, but the Proms were cancelled. The TUC announced it was cancelling its annual conference, a Hyde Park Extinction Rebellion protest was called off.

At Balmoral, the Queen's closest relatives, who had been summoned on Thursday as her condition worsened, began to return home. Hints of ongoing strains between family members were discernible from the timetable of royal departures. Prince Harry was the first to leave, at around 8.15am, barely 12 hours after arriving.

At noon, church bells in city centres and villages tolled to mark the Queen's death. In Westminster, the sight of a packed House of Commons filled with MPs in black suits was one of the day's most striking images; the line of new faces on the government's frontbench was also a stark reminder of how much has changed in Britain in just four days.

Beginning a two-day session to allow politicians to pay tribute to the Queen, the new prime minister, Liz Truss, said: "She was the rock on which modern Britain was built." Using the still unfamiliar term, she declared that the nation was now entering a new "Carolean age". Both she and the former PM Boris Johnson gave insights into how bright and alive the Queen had been on Tuesday, when they had had separate audiences with her at

Balmoral. "She generously shared with me her deep experience of government, even in those last days," Truss said. The Conservative MP Tom Tugendhat, a Home Office minister, shouted "God save the King!" as she finished her speech.

At 1pm the BBC, which had for a second day cleared its normal schedules, cut away from the tributes to broadcast the 96-round death gun salute launched simultaneously from around the country. Thousands of people had gathered in near silence to watch a procession of 71 horses gallop into Hyde Park, before the 16-minute display of cannons firing blanks.

By early afternoon, several florists near Green Park had sold out of flowers, but it would be wrong to suggest that signs of mourning were particularly visible everywhere in the capital, beyond the immediate vicinity of the palace. Elsewhere people went to work, ate in restaurants, travelled by tube, attended school and went shopping as normal.

Across the capital there were only occasional scattered signs that this was a significant day - a black band with the Queen's face rotating at the top of the BT Tower, pictures of the Queen on digital display panels at bus stops, and, just before 2pm, the noise of TV helicopters tracking the journey of the new King in a convoy along cleared roads from RAF Northolt into central London.

A vast crowd was waiting to greet him. In the eight minutes between 2.13pm and 2.21pm the King shook hands with about 200 people, most of them women, lined up against barriers erected outside Buckingham Palace. Occasionally using his left hand as well as his right, for greater efficiency, he smiled warmly, accepted one red rose, two kisses on the hand and one kiss on the cheek, before making his way into the building.

Shortly after the King's arrival, the new PM arrived for her second audience with a monarch in the space of three days. And somehow during the day the new King managed to find time to write a speech to the nation, which was broadcast at 6pm.

As a prayer service began at St Paul's cathedral, the BBC and ITV simultaneously broadcast his nine-minute address, which was full of uninhibitedly affectionate expressions of love for his "beloved mother" as well as for the new Queen Consort. In a speech clearly designed to build bridges, he made a point of adding that he wanted also "to express my love for Harry and Meghan as they continue to build their lives overseas".

He paid tribute to his mother's "life well lived", her "warmth, humour and unerring ability always to see the best in people", and pledged to follow the "unswerving devotion" she had displayed to the nation. "And to my darling Mama, as you begin your last great journey to join my dear late Papa, I want simply to say this: thank you."

All day, choristers had been rehearsing a revised national anthem; as the service drew to a close God Save the King was sung for the first time since 1952.



Commons Tributes to Queen's service and sense of fun

Aubrey Allegretti

Political correspondent

Liz Truss recalled how the Queen shared her "deep experience of government" when the pair met at Balmoral earlier this week, as she hailed the late monarch as "the rock on which modern Britain was built".

The prime minister offered her condolences to King Charles III in a phone call on Thursday night and pledged to him her "loyal service" in "our new Carolean age".

Two days of tributes began yesterday in parliament, with MPs in mourning dress sharing touching and humorous experiences of meeting the Queen - including Boris Johnson.



Truss said the Queen was “one of the greatest leaders the world has ever known” and that the UK was a great country “because of her”.

Recalling that the Queen’s first prime minister, Sir Winston Churchill, said King George VI’s death had “stilled the clatter and traffic of 20th-century life”, Truss said that 70 years later, “life has paused again”.

She added: “As we meet today, we remember the pledge she made on her 21st birthday to dedicate her life to service.” To murmurs of “hear, hear”, Truss said: “The whole house will agree – never has a promise been so completely fulfilled.”

The Queen took her red box of papers every day and gave royal assent to countless pieces of legislation, Truss told MPs.

“She was willing to have fun,” said Truss, referring to the Queen joining Paddington Bear for tea to mark her platinum jubilee and appearing alongside Daniel Craig’s James Bond at the London Olympics opening ceremony in 2012.

The prime minister said the country owed King Charles “our loyalty and devotion”. Concluding her remarks, Truss said: “The crown endures. Our nation endures. And in that spirit, I say: God save the King.”

Other prime ministers, who had weekly audiences on Wednesdays with the Queen, also shared intimate details of their past encounters.

Theresa May recalled a picnic at Balmoral, detailing how she employed the three-second rule

with some cheese she dropped on the ground.

“I had a split-second decision to make,” May said, admitting she returned the cheese to the table. MPs burst out laughing when she added: “I turned round to see that my every move had been watched very carefully by Her Majesty the Queen. I looked at her. She looked at me and she just smiled. And the cheese remained on the table.”

May also joked that her meetings with the Queen were the only ones she knew “would not be briefed out to the media”. She said the events were “not meetings with a high and mighty monarch, but a conversation with a woman of experience and knowledge and immense wisdom”, and added: “I doubt we will ever see her like again.”

Johnson made his first contribution as a backbencher since departing Downing Street and meeting the Queen for the final time.

“She saw off her 14th prime minister and welcomed her 15th,” he said. “And I can tell you in that audience,



▲ Theresa May recalled an amusing incident at a picnic at Balmoral

she was as radiant, knowledgeable and fascinated by politics as ever I can remember, and as wise in her advice as anyone I know – if not wiser.”

Johnson revealed that the BBC had interviewed him about the Queen “a few months ago”, and he was asked to “talk about her in the past tense”.

He admitted: “I am afraid I simply choked up and I couldn’t go on. I am really not easily moved to tears, but I was so overcome with sadness that I had to ask them to go away.”

The Queen had a “special, personal relationship with us all”, the Labour leader, Keir Starmer, said. “Covid closed the front doors of every home in the country, it made all our lives smaller and more remote ... At the time we were most alone, at a time we had been driven apart, she held the nation close, in a way no one else could have done.”

Starmer said the Queen “would want us to redouble our efforts, to turn our collar up and face the storm, to carry on”, and added that the late monarch “will always be with us”.

Harriet Harman, the longest-serving female MP, told how, when she was sacked from the cabinet and “nobody else wanted to know me”, the Queen invited her for tea. She “ marvelled ” at the Queen for her “determination and courage” by challenging the status quo when she took to the throne in 1953 in “what was emphatically then a man’s world”.

Tributes will continue today, following some senior MPs taking the oath of allegiance to King Charles III.

▲ MPs from all parties paid tribute to the Queen in a packed House of Commons

PHOTOGRAPH: JESSICA TAYLOR/UK PARLIAMENT/UNIPIXS

Starmer sounded spiritual – almost religious ... He was so powerful that even the Tory frontbench nodded along

Sketch
John Crace



Love, oratory and a nice gag or two: how MPs tried to elucidate death’s psychological meaning

Death takes us to unusual places. Who would have imagined that Boris Johnson could have reinvented himself as the voice of the nation? Or that Theresa May could turn out to be a gifted after-dinner speaker with a nice line in gags?

After a minute’s silence at 12pm, a packed Commons met to pay tribute to the Queen. To try to find the words the rest of us couldn’t. To explain why a death that had been so anticipated had still come as such a profound shock. To make sense of the deep affection so many people felt for someone they had never met.

It fell to Liz Truss to open the speeches. The best that could be said was that she was serviceable. But then it was never going to be any different, even if she had had more than three days in the job and had had more than passing contact with the Queen. The prime minister is not in touch with her own emotions, so how can she possibly connect with the nation’s?

Not that she didn’t say all the right things. Truss echoed Churchill, describing the Queen’s death as “stilling the clatter of modern life”; she joked about James Bond and Paddington; and she looked to the future with thoughts of the new king. A new Carolean age. But it was all somehow flat and unmoving.

Keir Starmer was pitch-perfect. When he spoke of love, you felt it. He understands grief. That when we are grieving for the Queen, we are allowing ourselves to grieve for ourselves. The Labour leader gets the Freudian subtext. Death’s psychological meaning. That no matter how we may try to fill the gap of someone’s death, part of us will remain inconsolable. Which is how it should be. As that is how we perpetuate the love we do not want to let go of.

At times Starmer sounded spiritual – almost religious – as he talked of the capacity for the Queen to dwell with us in our pain. Almost as if he was inviting us to make the comparison between the empathy of

a monarch and the coldness of an uncaring government. He was so powerful, so convincing, that even the Tory frontbench nodded along.

There was no chance Johnson was going to miss out on a chance to make his own tribute. These are the occasions he lives for. He may have been a disaster as a prime minister but he can write and deliver a speech. More than that, what made him unsuitable for No 10 makes him a great speaker. Like

all narcissists, he suffers from a deep wound to the psyche. So when he speaks from that wound, as he did here, he allows us to feel our own wounds.

Johnson unashamedly acknowledged the love he felt for the Queen. It was psychologically impressive. Though, as so often, it came as a stark contrast to how he had behaved. His staff had partied on the night before Prince Philip’s funeral. He himself had lied to the Queen over the prorogation of parliament.

The big surprise was May. She had predictably started off disconnected and without affect. Monotone, dull and boilerplate. Service, duty, war record and longevity. Then she told three cracking anecdotes and didn’t screw up the punchline. Not even once. Who knew? The Commons loved her.

After that, many MPs began to drift away. All that had needed to be said had been said. But that didn’t stop many from queueing up to repeat themselves. Even when the most moving sound is silence.



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022



HUGO BURNAND-POOL/GETTY

So who is King Charles III? He spent decades preparing for this moment. But what sort of monarch will he be?

Stephen Bates



King Charles III had been waiting his whole life for this moment. At his birth 73 years ago he became second in line to the throne and for seven decades, after his mother ascended the throne when he was three, he was heir apparent.

He was brought up, trained and endlessly coached for a job that has finally come to him at an age when most people want nothing

more than a peaceful retirement; a time which, in his case, might have otherwise involved growing organic vegetables and painting watercolour landscapes.

How he handles his reign will shape the future of the monarchy – and, indeed, determine whether it has a future at all. His great-great grandfather, Edward VII, came to the throne (aged 59) in 1901, after the 64-year reign of Queen Victoria, with a reputation as an amiable but talentless and feckless wastrel – that's certainly what his mother thought – and yet when he died nine years later was regarded as a monarch who had been a success, enhancing the institution, improving its popularity and

No one knew what his mother thought; the trouble is that everyone knows what Charles thinks about almost everything

making it more accessible in a democratising nation.

Can Charles accomplish something similar? Can an elderly sovereign, succeeding an even older one, engage the monarchy with a country whose population is mostly much younger than him? Particularly one whose politicians, business leaders, generals, police chiefs are decades his junior: 20, or 30 years younger, a whole generation with different experiences and skills.

Keeping up with the times has been the hallmark of this royal dynasty's success and, unless Charles does this, he and the monarchy are sunk. Can he manage the chief object of all his predecessors: passing on the crown untarnished to his heirs? Or will he, through his own volition, end up as Charles the Last?

This would be a terrible legacy after all this waiting: a great humiliation for a deeply proud and self-conscious man who has had dinned into him all his life the special responsibilities he will bear.

Unlike his predecessors, especially Edward VII, he was trained in the requirements and expectations of monarchy: he saw the state papers, sat in on the meetings, and stood in for his mother at royal events. For more than half a century he was as prepared as anyone could be for the role of head of state. He was the oldest heir to the throne as well as the heir who waited the longest. Now his hour has come.

The outline of Charles's life has been scrutinised in great detail ever since the November evening in 1948 when the notification that the Princess Elizabeth had been safely delivered of an heir was posted on the railings at Buckingham Palace to the cheers of the waiting crowd (who were asked to keep quiet to avoid waking the baby).

First, there was the sensitive little boy with the ruthless father and the often absent mother, sent to board at the spartan and hated Gordonstoun school in Scotland. Then came the awkward undergraduate life at Cambridge, the brief naval career, and the prolonged search for a wife, the disastrous marriage to the fairytale princess, then the tragic denouement of their acrimonious divorce followed by her sudden death a year later.

After that there was the more contented second marriage and the emergence of his two sons into the adult world as young men who appear to have inherited the best of their mother's traits. It is a soap opera observed by much of the world, so much so that, like all the

best reality TV characters, most people have an opinion on Charles.

We have seen more of him, heard from him more often and giggled at his eccentricities and oddness more regularly for decades than was possible with any of his predecessors. But since Charles is a more complicated, difficult and reserved man than modern celebrity allows, his popularity is decidedly limited: he is not loved or even liked much, nor particularly admired or respected, and this is a very great handicap in his new role.

For, after all these years, Charles Philip Arthur George, Prince of Wales, brings with him considerable baggage. We know where he stands on issues such as organic farming, education, modern architecture, town planning, the countryside and herbal medicine; these are all issues that are not party political, but deeply partisan and certainly political with a small p.

It is not that he has held these opinions so firmly and publicly, nor even that they are particularly quaint, though some of them are, but that they are expressed so dogmatically.

They amount to a belief set that has for many years defined the man: conservative, slightly tweedy, a little snobbish, hankering for a romantic never-quite-was past, looking for somewhat reactionary, small-scale, individualistic solutions to the giant problems of the modern age. We all get a bit stuffier as we get older, but a preference for the Goons 70 years after their humour was novel and innovative is possibly taking things a little far.

How does all that fit with his new role? It is there in his preference for the late-night, anguished, pen-and-ink "black spider" memoranda and letters with which he has been wont to bombard ministers and aides, and in the worrying-away speeches on the future of the planet that he has been making for decades.

Some of this may be admirable, but it may be hard to reconcile with a job demanding absolute discretion as the price of survival. No one ever knew what his mother thought about anything; the trouble is that everyone knows what Charles thinks about practically everything.

It will make the evolution of the monarchy even harder. His mother could embrace change equably and without fuss - a blank emotional

and intellectual canvas - but with him it may be more difficult. He has been sitting, uncomfortably, on the cusp of the monarchy's modernisation project: the first heir to the throne to receive an education at school, with his contemporaries. But it was of a rare and privileged kind, surrounded by the sons (but not the daughters) of the wealthy, at private schools and university.

Throughout his life he has listened almost entirely only to people who agree with him: argument, or debate, does not come easily, particularly for one who stands so firmly on his dignity.

There have been decades of dutiful public engagements, meeting "ordinary" people, but scarcely engaging with them, or appreciating what their lives are really like by doing a nine-to-five, wage-earning job himself. It never seems to have occurred to him that doing this might have increased his grasp of the realities of daily life for his future subjects and accordingly he has never really stepped outside the gilded life of large estates and a retinue of servants. Other royal families have been prepared to do this, but not Charles: his imagination seems strictly limited and unadventurous.

The Duchy Originals biscuits and knick-knacks may be doing their bit for farms on his vast estates, but they are overpriced and heavily subsidised from the profitable bits of the Duchy of Cornwall, which give him an annual income of about £21m, largely drawn from the rentals of urban shopping centres and agreeable chunks of central London. Poundbury, his model village in Dorset, bears all the hallmarks of a vanity project, subjecting ordinary folk to the sort of experiment in cramped social living that he would not dream of for himself.

He would probably argue that he has tried to empathise and understand his future subjects - the farmers devastated by foot-and-mouth disease in their herds, the inner-city kids whose futures are nearly as circumscribed as his was - but the gulf in their experiences has been a chasm.

His charity, the Prince's Trust, has performed valuable work in helping disadvantaged youngsters, but it still carries the whiff of noblesse oblige. And the tales leaching out about his keen sense of his own dignity: not the



▲ The then Prince of Wales with Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, leaving St George's Chapel following the blessing of their wedding in 2005

apocryphal toothpaste-squeezing valet, or even the range of soft- to hard-boiled eggs laid out for his delectation each morning, but the large personal entourage of butlers and flunkies and the occasionally peevish and self-pitying outbursts tell their own story.

You may say that if a prince can't have a sense of entitlement, who can? But such things are hard to hide these days, they militate against a true sense of identification and scarcely help him to identify with his subjects' lives - or assist them to identify with him. And hiding is difficult for a modern monarch. Kings and queens have been under the scrutiny of the media for several centuries now and Charles has lived his whole life in its spotlight, from his first baby photographs and outings in the pram to the mundane round of visits and duties.

He has had some grounds for complaint - but has equally brought many of his difficulties on himself. He did not ask for his first marriage to crumble in the full glare of the media, but the story the tabloids reported about his infidelity and thoughtlessness towards his wife was, after all, largely true. It was the photographers who first spotted his envy of her celebrity and her heedlessness of his ingrained obsession with protocol and sense of his own importance. The royals depend on public exposure and they can hardly complain if they get burned by its glare as, in Walter Bagehot's famous phrase, daylight is let in on the magic. The fairytale marriage to Diana fell apart and he had no one to blame but himself.

Charles has experienced at first hand the evolving nature of the media, from the fawning deference and discretion of the 1950s, through ridicule to raucous intrusiveness in the 1980s and 1990s. It has become a loathe-hate relationship: he does not like the media and treats them with disdain and they don't like him, for his pomposity and superciliousness.

Even the most inoffensive of royal watchers, the BBC royal correspondent Nicholas Witchell, felt the lash of Charles's tongue: "These bloody people. I can't bear that man. I mean, he's so awful, he

really is," as the prince said under his breath when Witchell had the temerity at a pre-wedding press conference on the ski slopes in 2005 to ask his sons how they felt about their father marrying Camilla Parker Bowles.

That marriage, to his long-term mistress, has proved to be a mellow one. Had it taken place a quarter of a century earlier, many of the prince's troubles might just have been avoided, but in those days it was still thought necessary for the heir to the throne to marry a princess or at least a member of the aristocracy - an arranged marriage in all but name - and so the gauche and sensitive young man was hawked around Europe, failing to find a bride at every turn until, desperately, he landed with an inexperienced and naive young woman he scarcely knew and with whom he shared no interests.

The royal family has probably learned its lesson since then, and now Camilla will be crowned as Queen Consort. It is clearly what Charles and the Queen wanted: Camilla is personable and friendly, plenty of people these days have experiences of adulterous partnerships and second marriages, in their own lives or those of their relatives and are not noticeably censorious about them, but it remains a sensitive issue in the rarefied world of Buckingham Palace.

Copious testing of public opinion went on at Clarence House: did the British people mind; how much did they care? The established church, founded by a monarch, sustained by and sustaining the monarchy, finds itself in an awkward position even if the rest of the country does not. It just about managed to bless Charles and Camilla's marriage in 2005 but will its privileged, jealously guarded position conducting the coronation look odd when it anoints the king and accepts without demur his record of adultery?

It had conniptions when Charles announced many years ago that he rather fancied becoming "defender of faiths" rather than defender of the faith, and where does that leave the coronation oath with its ponderous rubric about maintaining the laws of God, the Protestant reformed religion and the preservation inviolate of the settlement of the Church of England and the doctrine, worship, discipline and government thereof? How can that be taken seriously in a multifaith, multiethnic Britain, where only one in 60 people go regularly to a C of E service?

But that may be a minor difficulty compared with that of the Commonwealth. He is not only King of Great Britain and Northern Ireland but de facto of 14 other countries.

Charles begins as king with a large legacy of public goodwill, bequeathed him by his mother, as well as institutional inertia, which he will have to be careful not to squander. He may feel that it is, at long last, his turn. But will he be an old man in a hurry? How otherwise will he make his mark on history? And what if that mark is to bring the whole house tumbling down?



▲ Charles, flanked by the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, in the royal box at Westminster Abbey for his mother's coronation in 1953 PHOTOGRAPH: PA



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022



A quiet revolution? How will the new court of King Charles look?

Robert Booth

A slimmed down monarchy led by a king staying true to his lifelong passions and living at a palace with its doors thrown open to the public: these are just two predictions for the court of King Charles III made during his record-breaking 73-year wait to be crowned.

The new leader of the royal family and head of state of 15 realms from the UK to Australia via Tuvalu and Jamaica carries a legacy of strident public interventions which will have to be handled carefully to avoid any impression of tensions with parliament or diplomatic partners abroad.

He has argued in favour of complementary medicine, railed against rainforest depletion, and during the 2014 Ukraine crisis on trip to Canada he told a 78-year old woman who had fled the Nazis that Vladimir Putin was “doing just about the same as Hitler”.

But he and his advisers have long said he knows the constitutional difference between being head of state and heir to the throne and his new leadership will aim to project continuity with the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, a view bolstered by Charles’s decades of support of his mother and a steady revival in public regard for him since the death of Princess Diana in 1997.

“Clearly I won’t be able to do the same things I have done as heir so of course you operate in the constitutional parameters,” he told a BBC interviewer in 2018. Asked if

his campaigning would continue he said: “No it won’t. I’m not that stupid. I do realise it is a separate exercise being sovereign.”

But after 64 years as heir, he has inevitably developed instincts and habits in his public role that he may find hard to shrug off. Mark Bolland, a private secretary to Charles between 1996 and 2002, said in 2005 that the prince would refer to himself as “a dissident working against the prevailing political consensus”. His “very definite aim ... as he explained it to me, was to influence opinion”.

He has felt obliged to not just speak out but to act particularly on the issue he has identified as his main priority: climate change. Consider the tone of his opening sentence from his book *Harmony* published in 2010 (when the Queen was already 84): “This is a call to

revolution. The Earth is under threat. It is losing its balance and we humans are causing that to happen. ‘Revolution’ is a strong word and I use it deliberately.”

One source who knows him said he may retain his focus on the environment and rural affairs, while interventions on healthcare and architecture, already diminished in preparation for his coming role, are likely to be vanishingly rare. His experience in foreign affairs – having undertaken more than 90 state visits since 2014 alone – is expected to be a strong suit, given how much the monarch is expected to function as a tool of British foreign policy.

The way he sets up shop could be key in swaying the British public’s ambivalent attitude to whether he will make a good king, with the proportion of people feeling optimistic and pessimistic on that question fluctuating around 32%, according to recent YouGov polling.

Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are set to have a larger role as part of a royal ‘quad’

As King Charles III and Queen Consort Camilla establish court in Buckingham Palace, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge are set to have a larger role as part of a royal “quad” that will lead an already streamlined House of Windsor.

“They are working more in tandem than ever before,” said a source of William and his father. “[William] will be deputy chief executive, an important role.”

A key issue is how to handle the thousands of annual public engagements and patronages that bind the monarchy with wider society in the UK and Commonwealth with speculation centred on fewer, more focused public events and possibly a developed role for Prince Edward, Charles’ youngest brother, and his wife Sophie, Countess of Wessex.

William, 40, has now become the Duke of Cornwall and is likely to become Prince of Wales. It was reported early in 2022 that William, who is a patron of homelessness charities Centrepont and the Passage, is interested in using parts of the Duchy’s huge landed estates to house the homeless.

The new king is expected to move much of his Clarence House team into the Buckingham Palace offices, led by his well-established private secretary, Clive Alderton, who first joined his staff in 2006.

A key fixture is likely to be

◀ As king, Charles is expected to rely more heavily on William and Kate, left, to share core royal duties

PHOTOGRAPH: MAX MUMBY/GETTY IMAGES

Peter St Clair-Erskine, a former police commander who is master of Charles' household and a hereditary peer. Confidantes and friends around the new court could include Nicholas Soames MP, William Shawcross, currently the commissioner of public appointments and the landowner Charles Palmer-Tomkinson and his family. Missing is likely to be Michael Fawcett, who stood down from the Prince's Foundation charity amid an investigation into claims he offered to help a Saudi donor obtain an honour.

The King's private homes at Highgrove in Gloucestershire and Birkhall in Scotland as well as the Queen's home at Sandringham are likely to be key bases for a monarch and consort who love rural life.

Repeating his mother's ability to unify large parts of the country by remaining above the fray of controversies may be harder for Charles who has long felt a calling as a kind of public tribune. In his *A Vision of Britain* book in 1989 he quoted GK Chesterton in his call to the quiet majority who, he felt, shared his views: "We are the people of England that never have spoken yet." In 2010, the year after his intervention blocked Qatar's planned redevelopment of Chelsea Barracks, his then private secretary, Sir Michael Peat, said it was Charles's "duty to make sure the views of ordinary people receive some exposure".

One source said we may see a sharper focus on the needs of deprived areas, as well as the devolved nations where Scottish independence and strains in Northern Ireland's politics continue to threaten the union. Charles is understood to have been proud of the role that the Queen has played in the peace process.

Meanwhile it is expected that his involvement in the network of charities will be reduced, perhaps, said one observer, with his flagship charity the Prince's Trust becoming entirely independent.

The court of King Charles is likely to seek a new balance in what he has described as his "mobilising" of influential opinion and power, something critics call "meddling".

While waiting to become king, Charles became an elite activist; convening the bosses of global companies and foreign leaders to tackle issues such as rainforest depletion and how companies can better measure, and so reduce, their environmental impact.

A source who has known Charles for many years has said: "Rather than a complete reinvention to become a monarch in the mould of his mother, the strategy will be to try and continue with his heartfelt interventions, albeit checking each for tone and content to ensure it does not damage the monarchy."

His friend and biographer, Jonathan Dimbleby has predicted: "A quiet constitutional revolution is afoot ... he will go well beyond what any previous constitutional monarch has ever essayed."

The royal in-tray Harry's memoirs, Andrew's court case - and subjects' apathy

Robert Booth

King Charles faces many challenges as he ascends to the throne. Here are some key issues in the new king's in-tray.

Publication of Prince Harry's 'intimate and heartfelt' memoir Charles's son is expected to publish a memoir late this year that his publishers have pitched as the definitive account of his "experiences, adventures, losses and life lessons". Penguin Random House, which is believed to have paid \$20m (£17m) for the book, described it as "intimate and heartfelt".

It will cover his life to the present day, raising the prospect of more revelations about the palace's treatment of the Duchess of Sussex that led to the couple's acrimonious departure for North America, as well as the royal family's handling of his mother's death when he was 12 and the relationship between Charles and Camilla.

The King may have to decide whether to ask to see pre-publication proofs or whether to use lawyers to threaten action to keep out sensitive family secrets or contested allegations.

A high court case over Prince Harry's security

Harry has also been in dispute with the Home Office over his security when he is in the UK. He is bringing a case to the high court alleging a change in the protection supplied left him feeling unsafe to be in the UK, even though he had offered to pay for the security personnel himself.

Questions over donations to Charles's charitable concerns

Police have been investigating one of Charles's three main charitable outfits - the Prince's Foundation - over allegations it solicited donations in exchange for supporting recommendations for honours. Charles has denied all knowledge of the arrangement, but the chief executive of the foundation, his long-standing aide Michael Fawcett, has already stood down.

It was revealed by the Mail on Sunday that Fawcett had offered to help a Saudi billionaire obtain a knighthood and UK citizenship in exchange for generous donations. As well as negotiating the fallout from the case, it highlights a wider question for the King: what he should do with his network of charities which focus on his various interests, from architecture and planning to the environment. One suggestion is that the Prince's Trust, the youth charity he founded in 1976, could become



▲ Prince Andrew's future role in the royal family is uncertain



▲ Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at the One Young World summit in Manchester earlier this week PHOTOGRAPH: OLI SCARFF/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

independent, as Charles, currently its president, increasingly focuses on his work as head of state.

Who paid Prince Andrew's £10m settlement with Virginia Giuffre?

After Prince Andrew agreed a settlement estimated at over £10m with Virginia Giuffre over her sexual assault claim in the US civil courts, Charles may face scrutiny over how the royal family helped his brother find the money. Buckingham Palace has previously declined to comment on reports the Queen would be contributing to the financial settlement from her private income, derived from the Duchy of Lancaster estate.

Other questions may be whether Charles wants Andrew to continue living at Royal Lodge, which he leases from the Crown estate, and whether he should continue to be known as the Duke of York.

How to improve the King's popularity with the public

Charles has work to do to build his public popularity. In a YouGov poll at the end of 2021, he was only the seventh most popular royal. The Queen and Prince William were first and second, and he was behind Zara Phillips and his younger sister, Princess Anne. He did even worse among millennials, falling to 11th place.

Loyalty to the King (given rates of support for the monarchy have stayed above 60% in the last three years) will probably boost that, but Charles will also calculate that giving the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge prominent roles will allow the family to project a more youthful image.

Constitutional battles at home and abroad

Last and not least, Charles is likely to face three constitutional battles. The first will come in the form of campaigns, triggered by the Queen's death, among some of the 14 realms to follow the lead of Barbados in 2021 to become a republic and cease being a constitutional monarchy. It is a moment that is likely to embolden republicans in Australia and in some Commonwealth nations such as Jamaica and Belize, where the succession will require a referendum to install Charles as head of state.

In the UK, he may also face calls for reform of the monarchy, and from a minority, for now at least, its abolition to turn Britain into a republic. And with ongoing pressures for Scottish independence and tension over the governance of Northern Ireland, the King faces threats to the union.

Religion Monarch will aim to protect all UK faiths

Harriet Sherwood

When King Charles III is coronated in the coming months the new sovereign will take an oath, promising to rule according to law, to exercise justice with mercy and to maintain the Church of England.

Under a canopy of golden cloth, he will then be anointed with holy oil, blessed and consecrated by the archbishop of Canterbury. For all its constitutional implications, the Westminster Abbey coronation will be a deeply religious occasion. Among King Charles's many titles are defender of the faith - a title bestowed on Henry VIII by the pope, and retained after England broke with Rome - and supreme governor of the Church of England.

His mother took these roles seriously. In her later years, the Queen increasingly spoke publicly of her religious faith, citing her "personal accountability before God" in one Christmas message.

"Charles shares his mother's faith and devotion though it has a slightly different complexion - perhaps more naturally high church, with a particular affinity for and interest in Eastern Orthodox Christianity," said Ian Bradley,

emeritus professor of cultural and spiritual history at the University of St Andrews and author of *God Save the Queen: The Spiritual Dimension of Monarchy*. The new king has also shown great interest in non-Christian faiths, especially Islam and Judaism.

In 1994, Charles triggered a controversy when he said he would be a defender of faith rather than defender of the faith, in a desire to reflect Britain's religious diversity. There were suggestions that the coronation oath might be altered.

In 2015, he clarified his position in an interview with BBC Radio 2, saying his views had been misinterpreted. "As I tried to describe, I mind about the inclusion of other people's faiths and their freedom to worship in this country. And it has always seemed to me that, while at the same time being defender of the faith, you can also be protector of faiths."

He said the Queen had said her role was "not to defend Anglicanism to the exclusion of other religions. Instead, the Church [of England] has a duty to protect the free practice of all faiths in this country. I think in that sense she was confirming what I was really trying to say all those years ago."

Now, as he ascends the throne almost three decades after that controversy, most people would agree Charles should champion the right to religious belief and practice of all his subjects, not just that of the dwindling number of people in the pews of Anglican churches.

Social attitudes have moved on in other ways. Charles III is the first divorced sovereign since Henry VIII. Charles's self-confessed adultery and divorce may still rankle among some traditionalist Anglicans, but it will not trouble the archbishops, let alone the vast majority of the population.



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

▼ As Prince of Wales - here visiting an organic farm in 1999 - Charles was vocal on ecological issues

PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA



Green king Will Charles continue to speak up for the environment?

Fiona Harvey
Environment correspondent

Fifty-two years ago, the young Prince of Wales made a speech warning of the dangers of pollution, and said society must urgently deal with the cost of cleaning it up, and preventing it in the first place.

"We are faced at this moment with the horrifying effects of pollution in all its cancerous forms. There is the menace of oil pollution at sea, which almost destroys beaches and certainly destroys tens of thousands of seabirds," he told the Steering Committee for Wales.

"There is chemical pollution discharged into rivers from factories and chemical plants, which clogs up the rivers with toxic substances and adds to the filth in the seas. There is air pollution from smoke and fumes discharged by factories and from gases pumped out by endless cars and aeroplanes." That speech, when he was 21, was greeted as "dotty"

at the time, he later recalled, but today seems prescient.

"He is possibly the most significant environmental figure of all time," says Tony Juniper, a veteran campaigner, former chief of Friends of the Earth and now head of Natural England, who advised Charles for several years and co-authored two books with him. "For more than 50 years he has shown commitment, energy and passion. He has incredible depth of knowledge and his impact has been absolutely enormous."

For Charles, this concern began in childhood. He developed a passion for the outdoors and an interest in farming, and in the 1980s started his Highgrove estate on the path to organic agriculture, which led to the founding of the Duchy Organic brand.

In the run-up to Cop26, he invited the US special envoy on climate, John Kerry, to Clarence House in London, a stark contrast to the government, which failed to send a minister when Kerry made a major speech at Kew. He laid out the Terra Carta, or Earth

charter, of environmental goals. His work on rainforests and species conservation has also been taken up by his son Prince William.

This work has got Charles into trouble. Jonathon Porritt, the former head of the Green party and of Friends of the Earth, who also advised Charles, recalls the 1980s when the UK was dumping sewage into the North Sea. Charles spoke out publicly, asking why it was not stopped. "Nicholas Ridley [then environment secretary] was absolutely livid," recalls Porritt. "He was furious that the Prince of Wales had chosen to use his profile in Europe to fire a broadside - though he [Charles] did not name Ridley or anyone in government."

Many may feel Charles has overstepped the limits of constitutional monarchy on occasion. As well as his public speeches, there have been private "black spider" letters to ministers raising concern on green and other issues. But his friends argue that his lines were carefully drawn. "He has managed this skilfully, within the bounds of his constitutional role,"

says Porritt, adding that the letters were not "extreme rants" but carefully constructed questions.

As prince, he could take on issues that politicians shied away from. In 2013, he laid into "the confirmed sceptics" and "the international association of corporate lobbyists" who he said were responsible for Earth being a "dying patient".

Will King Charles continue to speak out? "Definitely not," says Porritt. It has always been understood, he says, that the relative freedom Charles enjoyed as Prince of Wales would end as soon as he took the crown. "There was never a shadow of a doubt that

anything he did, in convening or some would say campaigning, he was absolutely clear that as soon as he inherited his role, that was it."

While prince, he could act as a "one-person NGO", as one supporter put it, but as king he will be constrained by the convention that the monarch should not interfere in political decision-making, or take any overt political stance. In recent years, he has tended to tone down his rhetoric in public: the blistering attack on corporate vested interests of 2013 has not been repeated, though he continued with some of his more discreet interventions, taking a role for instance in convening countries and businesses before the 2015 Paris climate summit.

His work on the Commonwealth will be key. Pakistan, the second most populous country in the Commonwealth, is suffering extreme floods. Many others are also vulnerable as temperatures rise, and the Commonwealth is seen as an important forum to tackle the climate crisis.

Traditionally, the monarch meets the prime minister once a week for a confidential conversation. "Whoever is prime minister should probably anticipate a pretty lively set of conversations on any shortfalls, in private," says Porritt. "Not immediately, of course, but in due course. Perhaps a year or so down the line. They'd better get ready."



▲ Fishing in 1992: Charles's love of the outdoors was forged in childhood

Camilla

If not a fairytale, a happier ending to royal love

Stephen Bates

Many kings have had mistresses – not a few fathered illegitimate children too – but very few have married their lover and so made them queen.

King Charles III's wife Camilla will therefore be treading new and potentially sensitive ground as his Queen Consort, as she is well aware. But social attitudes have changed sharply in the 25 years or so since she emerged from behind the shade of Princess Diana as the third person in the marriage in the latter's phrase during her 1995 Panorama interview.

Had royal attitudes evolved earlier – 50 years ago, when Charles first courted her – and accepted the possibility of the heir to the throne marrying a commoner instead of a princess or a member of the aristocracy (as his son William was eventually able to do) then things might have been a lot less troubled for the royal family.

Not that Camilla Rosemary Shand was particularly common. Her mother Rosalind was the daughter of the 3rd Baron Ashcombe and her father Bruce was a former major who had become an upmarket wine merchant after leaving the army.

Famously, one of her maternal great grandparents was Alice Keppel, Edward VII's mistress.

Camilla and her younger brother and sister grew up in East Sussex and central London, the children of privilege and affluence: in the words of the royal biographer Gyles Brandreth: "The Shands without question belonged to the upper class, [they] had position ... they opened their garden for the local Conservative party association summer fete. Enough said."

She had a private education – one O Level, no university – and went to a Swiss finishing school, rounding off with a French course in Paris. She was fun and had fun: fired from one job for coming in late after a party, working for the fashionable decorating firm of Sibyl, Colefax and John Fowler in Mayfair as a receptionist. A debutante in 1965,



▼ Camilla at the state opening of parliament in 2013, her place within the royal family was by then secured

PHOTOGRAPH: KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/PA MEDIA

she subsequently became one of the group of affluent young *gels* moving in similar social circles to Prince Charles, 18 months younger than she was. They shared common interests and he was apparently smitten. They shared a covert relationship, occasionally snapped by the press in furtive trysts at polo matches.

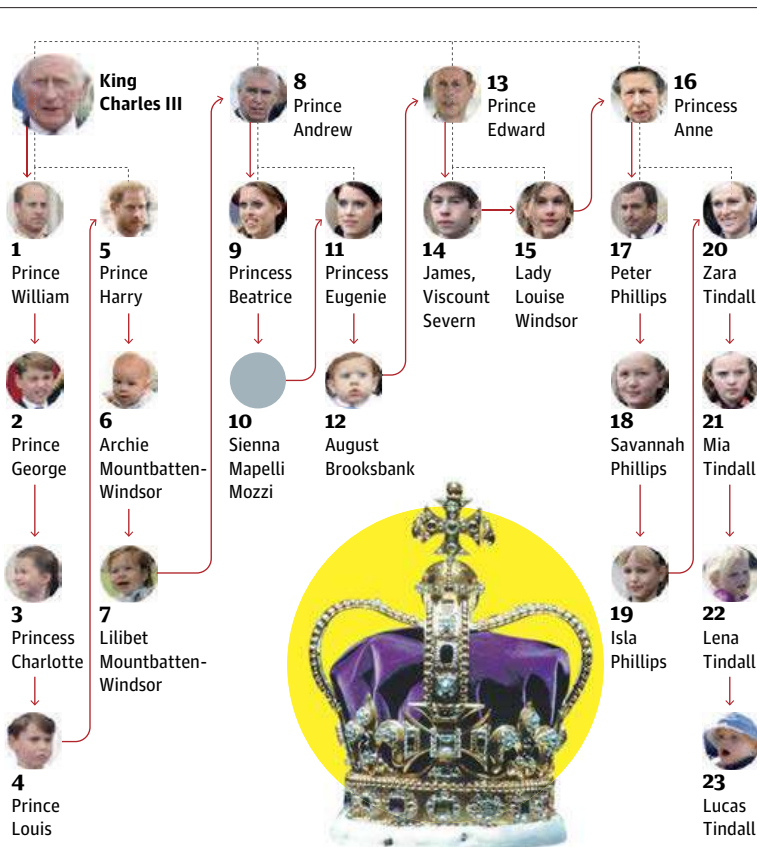
But somehow Charles hesitated. He went off on naval service. Was she not royal enough? Was he not entirely sure? Was it all becoming too public? "They were ideally suited, we know that now, But it wasn't possible," said Charles's cousin Patricia Knatchbull.

Camilla was certainly not on any list of eligible spouses as Charles searched excruciatingly publicly for a bride and, presumably tired of waiting, she went off and married Andrew Parker-Bowles, a Guards



▲ Charles and Camilla in 1975 in a relationship doomed by protocol

The royal line of succession



Guardian graphic

officer in the Blues and Royals in a society wedding in 1973. Despite producing two children, Tom and Laura, the marriage ended in divorce in 1994.

Meanwhile Charles's supposedly fairytale marriage to Diana Spencer, a member of one of the oldest aristocratic families in England, was also floundering, first privately and then increasingly publicly. The couple had few interests in common, Charles was 13 years older than his wife and the couple had scarcely known each other before their glittering wedding. The prince was jealous of Diana's popularity and she found him distant and lacking in affection. Increasingly, she came to blame Camilla for their growing estrangement and indeed Charles admitted adultery.

Charles and Camilla had got back together as lovers in 1980, the year before the royal marriage, resumed in the mid-eighties and in 1992 their affair became public with the release of the so-called Camillagate tapes, secretly taped intimate conversations between them in which Charles notoriously wished he could be a tampon. The prince refused to end the relationship and in the mid-1990s he and Diana and the Parker-Bowleses both ended their marriages.

Following the Panorama interview and Diana's death in the Paris accident, Camilla was widely vilified as if she was responsible for breaking up the prince's marriage and the princess's grim death in the Alma Tunnel – it seems to have been a view shared by the princess's sons William and Harry and by Queen Elizabeth herself.

A slow and coordinated public relations gavage by Camilla and the prince followed, orchestrated by Charles's advisers to make the relationship appear appropriate and to improve her public image. They were seen together, meeting at events and gradually Camilla started accompanying Charles.

She was finally introduced to the Queen in 2000, met the boys and was invited to Golden Jubilee events in 2002, to be seen at last publicly in the company of the monarch.

Cautious assessment of public attitudes was commissioned: would she be accepted by the public after what happened to Diana? Public attitudes however were changing: divorce and even adultery were no longer necessarily public taboos and in 2005 when preparations were made for the couple to marry the only objections came from the conservative evangelical fringes.

The Church of England was not prepared to marry the couple outright, but the then archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, did agree to conduct a blessing after a registry office wedding in Windsor.

The marriage appears to be a success. It has made Charles visibly less tense and grumpy and more smiley at public events and Camilla has come to be regarded as a good sort, friendly and approachable.

At last, she is going to be what Charles always hoped and planned for: his Queen Consort, as, married to the King, she now is automatically.



Death of Queen Elizabeth II

1926-2022



Tears, candles, and farewell to 'boss lady': how the world reacted



◀ In Atlanta, Georgia, the international airport was illuminated with the red, white and blue of the British flag

PHOTOGRAPH: PARAS GRIFFIN/GETTY

Ben Doherty
Sam Jones

On the streets of Sydney and Kyiv, they laid flowers. In California they lit candles, in Honolulu, flags flew at half-mast, and, in Paris, the Eiffel tower dimmed its lights.

The remarkably broad sweep of Queen Elizabeth II's life spanned the great to the inglorious, Churchill to Ceauşescu, Mandela to Mugabe. But much of her lasting legacy will lie in the tens of thousands of quieter lives she touched during her reign.

As news of her death spread, personal tributes were paid across the world. On the Mall in London, a phalanx of black cabs formed an impromptu honour guard. "Liz is a London girl," Michael Ackerman, a cab driver of 26 years said. "She's one of your own, she's one of ours."

The tributes extended across the globe. Despite the terrors, pressures and privations brought by Russia's invasion, some Ukrainians travelled to the British embassy in Kyiv with bunches of flowers.

Anatolii Zakletsykyi, 75, said he wanted to offer his condolences to the UK and express his admiration for the monarch: "First, as a symbol of devotion to the motherland. Secondly, [for] an absolute sense of duty before - as she herself said - God. And thirdly, to all of Britain for being true friends of Ukraine."

The news spread too, to the more distant corners of the monarch's realm. Eleven thousand miles away, the prime minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, was woken by a police officer's torchlight in her bedroom before 5am.

Having gone to bed reading of the Queen's ill-health, "when that torchlight came into my room I knew immediately what it meant", Ardern said. "I am profoundly sad."

In the country's official condolence book, Ardern thanked the Queen for her "life of service". She followed the words with the Māori proverb "*he kotuku rerenga tahi*", which translates to "a white heron's flight is seen but once". It refers to a rare event, and the comparison is intended as an honour.

In Sydney, the sails of the city's Opera House will be illuminated for two nights in the Queen's honour. Paying tribute at the Sydney's Government House nearby, Ross Harris said his earliest memory of the Queen was when she and Prince Philip visited his primary school in Tasmania in 1977. "When they visited, Prince Philip remarked: 'What a jolly cold place you live in.'"

In India, the MP and former diplomat Shashi Tharoor - who wrote the anti-imperialist polemic *Inglorious Empire: What the British Did to India* - paid tribute to the Queen's devotion to duty. "An era in history has ended today. It had to happen one day but

▲ Queen Elizabeth smiles down from the sails of Sydney Opera House in Australia's tribute

PHOTOGRAPH: JAMES MORGAN/GETTY IMAGES

it is still hard to escape a sense of disbelief. RIP Queen Elizabeth."

In Hong Kong, some used social media to mourn the woman affectionately nicknamed "boss lady" among older residents of a city that was one of Britain's last colonies.

Elizabeth II visited Hong Kong twice during her reign, while her son - now King Charles III - was present for its handover to China in 1997.

"My grandmother who raised me always spoke of the 'boss lady', I heard about her so much she felt like family ... today it's like a family member passed away," Facebook user Vincent Lam wrote.

When the Queen first set foot in Solomon Islands, she was given the appellation *Fau Ni Qweraasi*, meaning "a people's protector" by a former chief. Flags across Solomon Islands, where the Queen was head of state, flew at half-mast yesterday.

Outside Ye Olde King's Head pub in Santa Monica, California, Gregg Donovan set up a small shrine to the monarch, complete with candles, roses and a framed official portrait. Donovan, who once met the Queen, told PA Media: "She was so kind and gracious, and it's a sad day around the world. America loves the Queen ... and where I work in Hollywood

▼ A small shrine to the Queen was set up outside Ye Olde King's Head pub in Santa Monica, California

PHOTOGRAPH: APU GOMES/AFP/GETTY IMAGES



► Members of a Japanese ballet company lay flowers outside the British embassy in Tokyo

PHOTOGRAPH: YUICHI YAMAZAKI/AFP/GETTY

people were shocked, the British tourists were crying on the streets.”

At the Rose Tree Cottage English Tea Room in Pasadena, California, Brecken Armstrong was moved to tears among the royal memorabilia. Armstrong and her husband, Martin, said they admired the Queen's strong, feminine role. “The world just got more masculine,” Martin said.

On the other side of the US, the Empire State Building was illuminated after sunset in purple and silver to honour the Queen's life and legacy.

Six years after the Brexit referendum that triggered a period of tumult and bitter division, EU flags in Brussels flew at half-mast as a sign of respect.

The statue of Christ the Redeemer, overlooking Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, was lit up in red, white and blue. In Kenya, where Elizabeth – then still a princess – received news of her father's death in 1952, many reflected on the country's colonial links to the UK and its monarchy.

“It's a sad day because Kenya was colonised by the British, so Kenyans are part and parcel of the British system,” Vincent Kamondi, a taxi driver, told Agence France-Presse.

Although Kenya's Mau Mau freedom fighters suffered horrific abuses for taking part in one of the British empire's bloodiest insurgencies, independent Kenya has maintained strong ties with its former rulers.

“The education we have, the religion we have, it came from the British,” said businessman Jacob Midam, 38. The Queen's death, he added, “matters a lot”.

But in many other parts of the former British empire – India, the Pacific, Africa, and the Caribbean – public outpourings have been muted.

In Jamaica, Leslie Henriques said the Queen's death “doesn't really mean anything to me”.

He added: “Let's hope he [King Charles III] is done with the monarchy. We don't need kings and queens any more.”



► Workers mount a portrait of the Queen in the National Gallery of Zimbabwe

PHOTOGRAPH: JEKESAI NJIKIZANA/AFP/GETTY

▼ Times Square in New York projects an image of a smiling Queen

PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID DEE DELGADO/GETTY IMAGES



► Emmanuel Macron, at the British embassy in Paris, lays a rose by a photo of the Queen after signing the condolence book PHOTOGRAPH: CHRISTIAN HARTMANN/GETTY

France Emotions flow for monarch ‘who loved our culture’

Kim Willsher
Paris

Across the Channel in proudly republican France the death of Queen Elizabeth II provoked an unexpectedly emotional response reflecting a long-held and profound affection for the British monarch.

The main newspapers paid tribute to the Queen on the front pages of yesterday's editions.

The left-of-centre Libération devoted its entire cover to a black-and-white photograph of her taken by Cecil Beaton in 1968 with the words *La peine d'Angleterre* – a play on the words *reine* (queen) and *peine* (sorrow) – and a 17-page special.

In an editorial, the paper wrote: “Only Louis XIV had a longer reign. The death of the Queen of England [sic], announced on Thursday evening by Buckingham Palace, sent a shockwave across the world, as it was natural and destabilising at the same time. The phrase ‘The Queen is dead’ was pronounced.”

The centre-right Le Figaro also carried a large photo of the Queen, with the headline *L'adieu à la reine* (Farewell to the Queen). “The United

Kingdom cries for its monarch. Her death arouses a wave of emotion in the whole world,” it wrote.

Le Parisien produced a special edition, dedicating its front page to the Queen, with the headline: *Nous l'avons tant aimée* (We loved her so much). Its 13-page inside coverage included photographs of Elizabeth II meeting every French president since Charles de Gaulle, under the headline: *Une love story avec la France*.

Even local newspapers including Le Télégramme, Sud Ouest, Nice Matin and La Provence cleared their planned front pages to run the story. Among the simplest and most moving coverage was Corse Matin's, whose front page was entirely taken up with a sombre black and white photograph and the words “the Queen”.

Le Monde also chose a black-and-white photograph for its front page, and published a 12-page special supplement.

If there was any lingering doubt whether Emmanuel Macron was “friend or foe” – a question on which Liz Truss felt the jury was out – the verdict came in a statement from the Élysée Palace on Thursday night.

“She was one with her nation: she embodied a people, a territory, and a shared will. And stability: above all the fluctuations and upheaval of politics, she represented a sense of eternity,” Macron wrote.

He added: “She held a special status in France and a special place in the hearts of the French people. No foreign sovereign has climbed the stairs of the Élysée Palace more often than she, who honoured France with six state visits and met each of its presidents.”

“For her, French was not a mere relic of Normandy ancestry that persisted in so many customs, but an intimate, cherished language. The Queen of 16 kingdoms loved France, which loved her back. This evening, the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth are mourning their Queen. The people of France join them in their grief.”

Yesterday, in a moving address in English to “Dear citizens of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth”, Macron added: “Her wisdom and empathy have helped us all to steer a path through the historic ups and downs of the last seven decades. With her passing we all feel an emptiness.

“We are grateful for her deep affection for France. Elizabeth II mastered our language, loved our culture and touched our hearts.”



► Libération's cover featured a 1968 portrait of the Queen by Cecil Beaton



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926–2022

Legacy of empire raises questions across globe about role of monarchy

Patrick Wintour
Oliver Holmes

King Charles' ascension to the throne has reignited a debate over whether the royal family deserves a global role in the 21st century, no more so than in the 14 "Commonwealth realms" where the British monarch remains the head of state.

A legacy of empire and slavery – entwined with British royalty for centuries – has raised tough questions about the place of a foreign king, and republican moments from the Pacific to North America and the Caribbean will be assessing whether they should seize the moment.

Recent developments, notably Barbados becoming a republic in 2021 and removing Queen Elizabeth as its head of state, have also led to a crescendo that could now reach a climax.

While there are strong republican voices in Australia, New Zealand and Canada, Jamaica appears to be most likely to face the issue immediately, not least because appointing the King might require a constitutional referendum.

Yesterday, the main story on the front page of one of Jamaica's leading newspapers, the Gleaner, said the Queen's death would "make Jamaica's break with monarchy easier".

Elizabeth II had a "personal kind of lingering among some sections of the population," the paper quoted the cultural expert Jahlani Niaah, a senior lecturer at the University of the West Indies, as saying. But he added: "There is another section that is clear that we have come too far with those millstones around our necks, and the fact that she has passed will mean there is less affection for the symbolism that she represents as a powerful woman in the world."

In 2020, Mikael Phillips, an opposition member of Jamaica's parliament, filed a motion backing the removal of

"It'll make Jamaica's break easier ... The fact that she has passed will mean there is less affection for the symbolism"

Jahlani Niaah
Academic in Jamaica

the monarch and on Thursday he said he hoped the prime minister "would move faster when there is a new monarch in place".

Jamaica's government last year announced plans to ask London for compensation for an estimated 600,000 Africans who were shipped to the island to the financial benefit of British slaveholders. A poll this summer found that more than half of Jamaicans said they wanted the Queen to be removed as head of state.

The royal family has sought to address Britain's bloody imperial past for decades. As prince, Charles attended the Barbados ceremony last year and gave a conciliatory speech referring to the "appalling atrocity of slavery" that "forever stains British history".

More than 10 million Africans were forced into the Atlantic slave trade by European nations, and those who survived the trip were shackled in the Caribbean and the Americas.

Belize has already announced a constitutional review, and some overseas British territories such as the British Virgin Islands' political leadership were also heading in a similar direction.

The wider Commonwealth of Nations, a group of 56 countries with 2.5 billion people, will also face a reckoning. The organisation has attempted to democratise, for

example, by declaring that its head is not a hereditary role. However, Charles was still chosen to lead by leaders of the bloc in 2018, which has made some countries uncomfortable.

In Australia, Canada and New Zealand, the transition has brought grief but also raised resentment around the damaging effects of Britain's colonisation on Indigenous peoples.

In Canberra, parliament has been suspended for 15 days and in Sydney the Opera House was illuminated in the Queen's honour. Still, within hours of her death being announced, the long-running republican debate was revived.

A Green party senator, Mehreen Faruqi, said: "I cannot mourn the leader of a racist empire built on stolen lives, land and wealth of colonised peoples."

This June, Australia's new government headed by Anthony Albanese, the prime minister, appointed Matt Thistlethwaite as the country's first minister tasked with overseeing a transition to a republic.

In New Zealand, the prime minister, Jacinda Ardern – a republican – remembered Queen Elizabeth II as "extraordinary", saying she came "to define notions of service, charity and consistency".

And Marama Davidson, the co-leader of New Zealand's Green party, said the relationship between the British crown and New Zealand was "a question for another day".

Regardless, a fresh break from British royalty seemed an inevitable question. Sir Donald McKinnon, a former deputy prime minister of Aotearoa (New Zealand) and a former secretary-general of the Commonwealth, told Radio New Zealand that the possibility of New Zealand becoming a republic would "build up quite a head of steam now".

In Fiji, which was a British colony from 1874 until 1970, the Queen was being mourned but British imperialism had complicated their feelings, said Inise Kuruwale, a librarian. "I believe most people feel sad today, but not all, because a lot of people are still a bit angry about the fact of colonialism."

In Vanuatu, which was run as a joint colonial post by the French and British after the second world war until gaining independence 42 years ago, residents of the capital, Port Vila, expressed sadness for her death, but said the relevance of the monarchy had dimmed over the years.

"She was a very good role model. She came to Vanuatu, but it was before I was born," said Lopez Adams, who owns a cafe in Port Vila.

"We are sad for her family, but for us, we have been forgotten. Colonisers came and they took. We are independent now and we have seen nothing from them."



'The invisible glue' Can Commonwealth survive without its devoted figurehead?

Patrick Wintour
Diplomatic editor

Born out of the empire, the Commonwealth, in the words of the former Conservative prime minister John Major and others, has somehow been held together by an invisible glue that was Queen Elizabeth.

Major said: "The Queen's relationship with the Commonwealth is intensely personal. You only have to see the Commonwealth heads of government – and particularly the African Commonwealth heads of government – with the Queen to see what they think of her, and of

the institution of monarchy itself." The Commonwealth Secretariat resides in the fading grandeur of Christopher Wren's Marlborough House on Pall Mall in central London, and has been led by a succession of secretary generals, but its beating heart has always been the Queen.

As the years wore on, and her experience grew, she became more central to the elusive organisation than serving British prime ministers, making it the one area of public life where she was considered on a par with elected politicians.

The former Australian prime minister Bob Hawke, at a seminar on the Commonwealth, even argued she preferred being head of those nations to her duties as



▲ The singer Rihanna was honoured as a national hero of Barbados as it celebrated its transition to a republic in 2021 PHOTOGRAPH: RANDY BROOKS/AFP/GETTY

▼ *The Queen, wearing a traditional kiwi feather cape, meets Māori during a 1977 visit to New Zealand*
 PHOTOGRAPH: ANWAR HUSSEIN/GETTY IMAGES



▲ *Reviewing Australian troops in Brisbane as head of the Commonwealth, during the silver jubilee tour in March 1977*
 PHOTOGRAPH: TIM GRAHAM/GETTY

► *Prince Philip watches as a girl offers the Queen a bouquet during a royal tour of Sierra Leone in 1961*
 PHOTOGRAPH: HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES



“a do as you are told Queen. In the Commonwealth she is much more than a figurehead. You could talk to her about any of the 51 countries of the Commonwealth and you could have an intelligent conversation with her about the economics, the politics. She really immersed herself in the Commonwealth, even to the point of getting communiques toughened up.”

David McDowell, a New Zealander who was special assistant to the Commonwealth secretary general Arnold Smith in the early 1970s, was equally struck by her knowledge. He said: “We used to go and brief her twice a year – and she would go right through the list of people. You know, not with notes; I mean, right off the top of her head. She would ask: ‘How is Dr Banda?’, ‘What’s the internal situation now in Zambia?’ or ‘What do we think about developments in India?’ And she had a compendious knowledge, particularly of the Commonwealth leaders. She knew them all and she was fascinated.” Prince Philip described her as the Commonwealth’s psychotherapist.

That knowledge was supplemented by more than 200 flag-waving royal tours to nearly all the Commonwealth nations, some on several occasions, making the visit a staple of the monarchy, along with her support for the Commonwealth Games. Apart from the Rwanda summit this year, a Sri Lankan summit in 2013

and a summit in Singapore in 1971 when she was advised by the prime minister Edward Heath not to attend because of controversy over arms sales, she has been present at every summit held since 1973.

Indeed she fought against British prime ministers trying to use her possible non-attendance as a lever to extract concessions from Commonwealth members.

For example, she announced she was attending 1979 Lusaka summit after she discovered she was being used as means to lever Zimbabwe’s black militants (via the host, Zambia’s president, Kenneth Kaunda) to declare at least a temporary ceasefire in their liberation war against Ian Smith’s government.

The most problematic period for the Commonwealth was in the 80s over the ending of apartheid when the UK policy of arms sales to South Africa infuriated many members, notably Kaunda. The 1991 Harare summit was a healing moment for the Commonwealth as it tried to exorcise the ghosts of Margaret Thatcher and antagonisms with the British government.

It meant a far greater focus on governance, human rights and democracy. It was in the UK’s interests to have a coming together from what some have described as a binary Commonwealth that opened up in the 80s between the UK and the other countries.

Whether the Commonwealth

should have stuck with this core business of human rights and values, as opposed to wider development issues for which it had no budget or great locus, is a matter of debate. At least it gave a platform for small island states to warn on climate change.

Initially the Queen only attended receptions before a summit, sometimes hosting guests on the royal yacht, but rarely attending its deliberations. But she would run through a gruelling list of audiences with individual heads of state, the way she chose to keep herself informed about the politics of Africa. It was not until 1997 in



▲ *An enormous umbrella is held over the Queen as she attends a traditional Durbar gathering of tribal chiefs at a sports site in Ghana*

Edinburgh, at the urging of the royalist Nigerian secretary general Emeka Anyaoku, that she attended the summit, perhaps a useful intervention in the wake of the death of Diana and a decline in the royal family’s popularity.

Her greatest pleasure was the sense that the monarchy played a role in binding together these nations, with their alleged shared beliefs and values. In the words of the historian Philip Murphy: “Her greatest contribution to the myth of the Commonwealth has been to reinforce the impression that it remains a powerful and constructive force in the world, and that feeling part of that family is a natural and logical feature of British identity.”

Yet, the Queen’s role as its head has always been nothing more than a title. It has no constitutional function and is not, a priori, inherited by her successor. That was because after 1949 when India became a republic, the definition of the Commonwealth as a group of countries under a common sovereign had to be abandoned. It was decided that the monarch became the head of the Commonwealth. In 2013, via her then private secretary Christopher Geidt, manoeuvres began to ensure Prince Charles would succeed her.

Not everything went right. Sometimes she had to suffer from the humiliations of New Labour modernisation, particularly at

the Edinburgh 1997 summit. Anji Hunter, Tony Blair’s political secretary, recalled in 2018: “I remember the Queen looked very bemused during the national anthem at Edinburgh because it was a new version of it, which nobody recognised. Nobody stood up – that was what was embarrassing. The foreign office minister Liz Symons had to get everybody to stand up in the royal box. She got the foreign secretary to stand up.”

“It was exciting in a sense. There was a new, ‘Let us make it youthful and vigorous’, not just about people getting in a room and ‘chat, chat, chat’. We arranged a photo-call with Nelson Mandela walking around the golf course – things like that, that we knew the media would be interested in – as well as going to St Andrews on the Orient Express. We were hellbent on getting good coverage in those days.”

Gradually, as more relevant summits fill the diplomatic calendar, the calibre of the leaders attending has declined, the length of sessions has shortened, making the institution more dependent on the monarchy, and linking the institution increasingly to a lost and tarnished British empire.

The question is whether King Charles will be able to provide the same glue, or if this multilateral yet personal institution will be laid to rest with the Queen. She would be appalled if that were to happen.



Death of Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

Queen of fashion - eight greatest hits

How she dressed to make herself part of the landscape and familiar to us all

Jess Cartner-Morley

1 Royal Variety Performance 1999

The Queen never tried to look cool. She didn't do jaded, or cynical. By 1999 she had been Queen for 47 years and had doubtless seen a fair few Royal Variety performances, but this celebratory outfit - one of the boldest of her gowns - sang with cheerful good humour. The Queen stuck staunchly to the principle that making an effort with your appearance is good manners, because it shows respect for the people around you.

This dress was designed and made by Karl-Ludwig Rehse, who served as dressmaker to the Queen for almost four decades. Rehse once said of the Queen: "She's fun to work with and very knowledgeable about fabrics. She knows how the clothes have to behave."

2 Zambia 1979

There are very few images of the Queen wearing trousers. She wore them during the second world war, when she joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service, donning khaki trousers, a utility jacket and cap while training as a mechanic and truck driver. But once she became Queen, she created a uniform of her own based on the clean lines of an A-line skirt. On this state visit to Zambia in 1979, one of the rare post-war occasions she wore trousers, she demonstrated her keen eye for a clean silhouette, teaming slacks with a revere-collar silk blouse for a soft take on a trouser suit.

3 Trooping the colour 2016

Losing the Queen feels, for many, as if we have lost something virtuous and valuable which we all held in common. We did not own the Queen, but she deliberately dressed to make herself familiar to all of us. She made herself a part of the landscape. Her trademark bright, boxy outfits made her as recognisable a feature of the British landscape as Big Ben or the white cliffs of Dover. This lime green outfit at trooping the colour in 2016 was surely chosen not for vanity, but for visibility. As always, there is an eye for impact: the pairing with Prince Philip's ketchup red is a dynamite piece of colour blocking.



6



4



1



3

5 In the front row 2018

At London fashion week there was only one contender for the best-dressed celebrity on the front row. The Queen's surprise appearance at Richard Quinn's catwalk show caused unprecedented levels of excitement - even Anna Wintour was seen to crack a smile. Not one to fall for the rookie error of clutching at the latest trends in an attempt to look fashionable at the shows, the Queen wisely stayed true to her signature clean-lined style. An Angela Kelly dress and matching jacket, trimmed with Swarovski crystals, was set off by simple black accessories.

6 Off to Balmoral 1974

The Queen's style flew a flag for old-fashioned decorum. For a flight to Aberdeen airport at the start of her annual Balmoral holiday in 1974, she is seen here wearing a teal wool suit, feathered hat, pearls



8



2

4 San Diego 1983

Meticulous attention to detail was a constant in the Queen's wardrobe while on official business. Visiting San Diego in 1983 she wore a navy skirt suit with a white pattern and a mirror-image colourway on the lapel of the jacket, the blouse and a baker-boy style cap. The look perfectly complemented the uniforms around her: the choice of colour, the hat and white gloves were in keeping with the sailor suits and military uniforms of the men present at the event. She looked entirely appropriate, while bringing a little razzle-dazzle to proceedings.



7

and a diamond brooch. You don't have to be the sort of person who gets misty eyed about The Old Days and believes in packing small children off to boarding school to be charmed by the notion of making an occasion out of air travel, and dressing accordingly.

7 Mexico 1975

The Queen was giving major Elizabeth Taylor energy here, in a sunshine yellow dress by Hardy Amies, and matching turban by Frederick Fox. The sweet white polka dots, the girlish white belt and the swing of the pleated skirt set an appropriate mood-music for a walkabout surrounded by excited children. The strong colour enabled her to be the focus of attention without looking stiff or formal, while the turban brought a dash of 1970s glamour.

8 Platinum jubilee balcony 2022

The Queen chose just one outfit for the world to see her in at this year's trooping the colour during her platinum jubilee celebrations. Her longtime right hand, Angela Kelly, designed this pale blue coat and matching hat, with a rich frosting of white embroidery at the neck and front closure and a matching trim at the brim of the hat. The Queen wore this both for her official portrait, and for her balcony appearance. The full significance of the choice of Wedgwood blue became apparent when the family gathered on the balcony. With Princess Charlotte echoing the Queenly blue, the Duchess of Cambridge in white, and the men in their scarlet uniforms, the Windsors painted the palace red, white and blue.

Nervous BBC tries to show sufficient respect while not swamping audience

Jim Waterson
Media editor

The death of the Queen has left the BBC with a tricky balancing act. It needs to act as the national broadcaster and commemorate the Queen, while also ensuring it doesn't overwhelm audiences so much they switch off altogether.

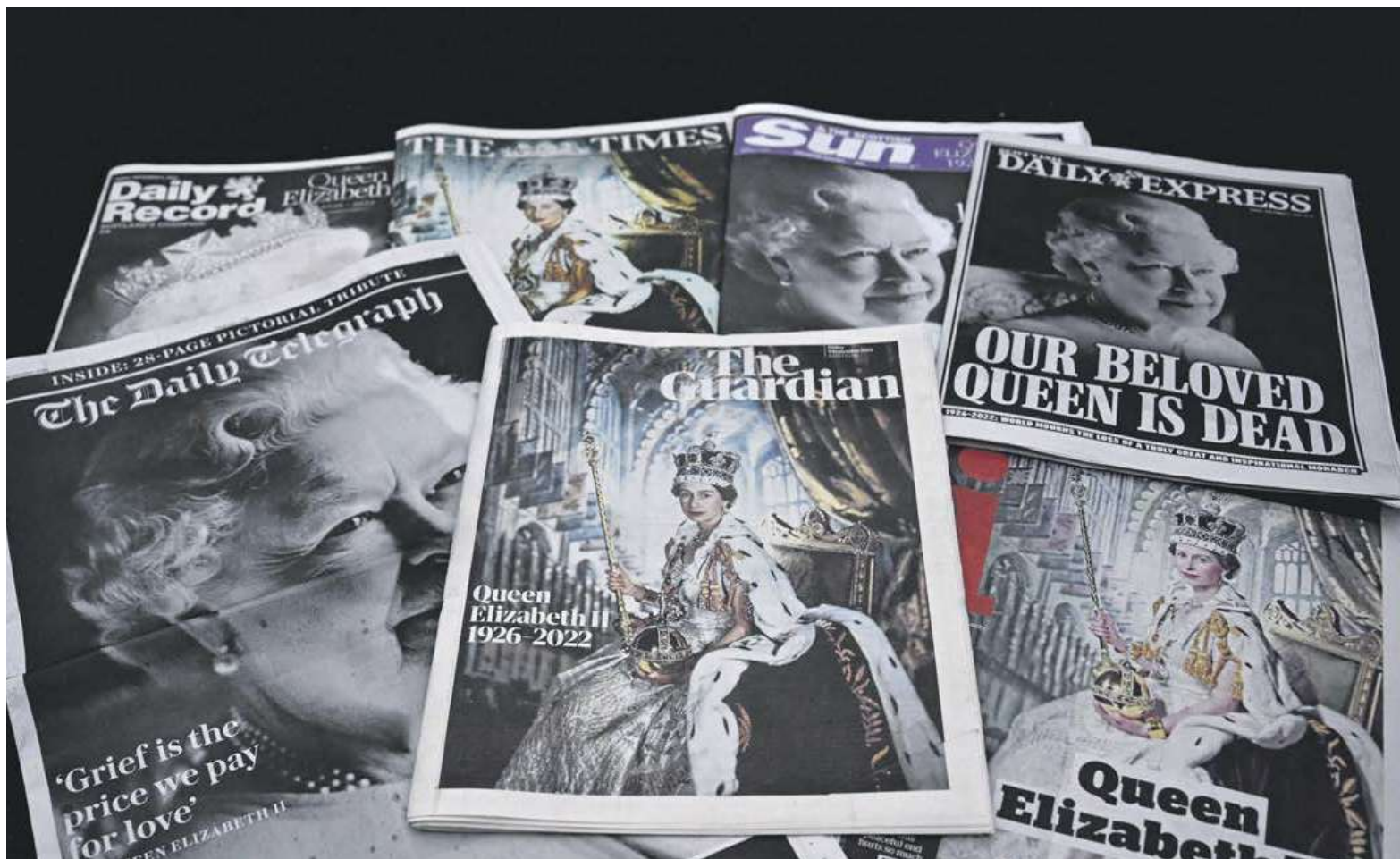
A combined television audience of around 16 million people watched the BBC, ITV and Sky News at 6.30pm on Thursday when the news of the Queen's death was announced.

Millions more were watching the same broadcasts via online streams, with the BBC's iPlayer and Sounds apps both struggling to keep up with demand. Many people are also likely to have found out the news from push alerts on their phones.

The challenge facing British broadcasters is that the media has changed substantially since the deaths of Diana, Princess of Wales and the Queen Mother. Back then there were only a handful of television channels and it was easy to enforce the same mood around the nation.

Now, with endless streaming options and catch-up services, it is easy for viewers to go to Netflix or TikTok if they tire of television news updates and downbeat music on radio stations.

There remains a deep paranoia in the BBC about being judged to be insufficiently respectful to the monarch, as symbolised by the fixation on the colour of the tie worn by Peter



▲ *The Guardian and other national newspapers mark the death of Queen Elizabeth. Many editions sold out as people sought souvenirs*

PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL ELLIS/GETTY IMAGES

▼ *BBC coverage on Thursday. That evening's 6.30pm news programmes on BBC, ITV and Sky News were viewed by a combined audience of 16 million people*

IMAGE: BBC NEWS/PA

Sissons to announce the death of the Queen Mother. Yet judging the tone and breadth of coverage can be difficult. The wall-to-wall coverage of Prince Philip's death last year became the most complained about issue in the BBC's history.

Different audiences around the world also have different expectations. BBC News Africa had to urge its audience to be more "respectful" after posting a tweet celebrating the

Queen's "longstanding connection" to the continent. The account was flooded with posts highlighting the negative impact of British colonialism, leading to BBC Africa manually hiding some replies.

For now, BBC One has been given over entirely to rolling news about the accession of King Charles III and the start of the formal mourning period for Queen Elizabeth II, with discussions ongoing about how long this should continue.

The Last Night of the Proms, scheduled for Saturday, has been cancelled. Many of the corporation's radio stations play sombre playlists with reduced chat between songs, with the likes of Radio 1 breakfast show host Greg James focussing on the universal idea of loss.

ITV has also continued with rolling coverage of the new king without ad breaks, although its for-profit commercial status means it is more inclined to returned to a normal schedule. It also suffers by comparison to the BBC, which tends to attract the majority of television audiences for major national events. It has already postponed the National Television Awards which were due to take place next Thursday.

Sky Sports News television channel has replaced with Sky News, meaning people who tuning in for updates on the appointment of Graham Potter as Chelsea manager are instead being greeted with coverage of the Queen.

Channel 4 appears to have decided to embrace the role of providing counter-programming, stating that it exists to offer viewers an alternative and "that is particularly important at times like this" by showing programmes such as Gogglebox.

All online news websites have seen extraordinarily high traffic, while print newspapers, often filled with articles that have been pre-written for decades, have sold out across the UK, as people pick up souvenir copies.

But at the BBC it might have been the approval of the Daily Mail that was been greeted with a sigh of relief by director general Tim Davie and new BBC News boss Deborah Turness. The newspaper praised the corporation's "simple but magisterial coverage" of the announcement. Yet even if it got the coverage of the Queen's death correct, the challenge might be ensuring coverage strikes the right balance in the 10 days until she is buried.



Protocol TV, radio, newspapers and online media pause ads

Mark Sweney

Broadcasters, newspaper publishers, radio stations and social media platforms including Snapchat have instituted an unprecedented advertising blackout in response to the death of the Queen.

ITV, Channel 4 and Sky were not running adverts on their main

channels until at least 5am today, in accordance with a protocol agreement with Buckingham Palace.

Commercial broadcasters and industry bodies were to meet late yesterday to decide whether the blackout should be extended, with some being told they may face penalties if they continue the pause past the officially agreed timeframe.

Twitter told media agencies, which buy ads on behalf of clients,

that it would not run ads in the UK for 48 hours. Snapchat UK had a 24-hour ban on ads around news content.

Various advertising limits have been applied by News UK, the publisher of the Times and the Sun; Reach, which owns the Mirror and Daily Express newspapers as well as more than 100 regional titles including the Manchester Evening News; and the publishers of the Daily Mail and the Daily Telegraph.

Mail Metro Media - the advertising arm of the Daily Mail, MailOnline, the Mail on Sunday, Metro, Metro.co.uk, i and inews.co.uk - said there would be no ads in the front half of most of its print titles until Tuesday. "As a mark

of respect, Mail Metro Media will not be running any commercial advertisements across our print and digital platforms for a minimum of 24 hours, unless they are adverts in tribute to Her Majesty the Queen," it said.

Reach pulled all print ads from the main sections of its titles and on digital homepages and around content related to the Queen. The Telegraph removed ads from print editions and its homepage. It planned to review its approach on Monday.

Clear Channel UK and JCDecaux - the two biggest owners of outdoor media sites - replaced ads on digital screens with tributes to the Queen. "We deemed it important to use our

public screens in an appropriate and thoughtful way," said a spokesperson for Clear Channel UK.

Bauer, which owns magazines and radio brands including Kiss, Magic and Jazz FM, paused all ads, sponsorships and promotions. Hearst, the owner of titles including Cosmopolitan and Good Housekeeping, and Conde Nast, the publisher of Vogue, Tatler and GQ, pulled all digital advertising through the weekend.

The ad blackout will cost media owners millions in revenue. However, newspapers will get a huge boost from sales of commemorative issues. Many retailers rapidly sold out of newspapers yesterday.

Politicians need to do more to safeguard the mental health of their children - study

Ian Sample
Science editor

Prominent politicians must do more to protect the mental health of their children, according to a leading historian whose research has revealed the enormous pressures faced by those with parents in government.

Prof Elizabeth Hurren, the chair of modern history at the University of Leicester, found a troubling pattern of mental health and wellbeing problems in children of politicians, which were often linked to their parents' work and the relentless attention that comes with public life.

"Political children need their

private spaces, but few get that chance in a social media era of faster news headlines and online clickbait," Hurren said. "Politicians are aware of the problem, but they are reluctant to discuss it."

In work to be presented at the British Science festival in Leicester on Tuesday, Hurren draws on memoirs, media coverage and interviews with the grown-up children of politicians to describe the mental health problems many struggle with.

Despite evident privileges, some children develop complex emotional issues after being pulled into the public eye during their parents' rollercoaster careers and afterwards when private family stories

are recounted in memoirs. Hurren's research for the British Academy comes as the new prime minister, Liz Truss, and her cabinet - who in total parent at least 47 children - take on the formidable tasks of steering the country through an economic crisis, rebuilding the NHS and navigating a world reshaped by war in Ukraine.

According to Hurren, Truss's decision to keep her teenage daughters, Frances, 16, and Liberty, 13, out of the public eye, and not have them photographed in front of No 10, suggests she has given serious thought to their privacy.

"She is protecting their mental wellbeing," Hurren said. "Liz Truss seems to understand this fact of political life better than many of her parliamentary colleagues who have been in denial or preferred to downplay the cost of public office for the politician's child."

Trouble can start before children are drawn into the limelight. Carol Thatcher was sent to a private girls' school after her twin brother, Mark, went to boarding school. In Hurren's report, Carol said she was sent away because Margaret Thatcher's attitude was "there wasn't much point in running a household for one child".

Thatcher's success left Carol feeling that she could never make

the grade, the report added. In the study, she said: "Nobody will ever know me for being anything other than Margaret Thatcher's daughter, so at the end of the day whatever I did was never good enough."

Many children are turned into silent actors, Hurren found, called in for family photoshoots, or to make political points, such as when John Gummer, the Conservative agriculture minister, fed his four-year-old daughter, Cordelia, a beefburger during the BSE crisis. "The children know how to smile for the camera but they are expected to remain silent actors on the public stage," she said.

The teenage years are often the most fraught, Hurren found. Politicians' children can get flak at school, particularly if their parents put forward unpopular policies, or become embroiled in scandals such as affairs

or legal wrongdoing. There are other risks too at that age: Euan Blair was 16 when he was arrested in Leicester Square for being "drunk and incapable", while William Straw, the son of the former home secretary Jack, was 17 when he was cautioned for selling cannabis after a tabloid sting.

With social media, a single photo can make the news, Hurren said. "The news feed is fast and once a story is out there it creates a narrative around you. You don't want that when you're a teenager because it's so hard to shake off."

The difficulties children face are not always clear to their politician parents. In 2017, Blair told the Mirror that he once commented to his children that "it wasn't that bad" for them, to which they replied: "No, you don't realise, we used to get a lot of stick."

Some of the most serious problems arise when politicians spill private family stories to land lucrative memoirs soon after they leave office, Hurren said.

"Since the 1970s, political memoirs have become more candid and revealing. "We need to find solutions to the problems these children are facing, because those generic lessons could help new politicians as they enter parliament."

'Politicians are aware of a problem, but they are reluctant to discuss it'

Prof Elizabeth Hurren
Research author

Rwanda Case reveals UK ignored red flags on asylum deal

Diane Taylor

Until the former home secretary Priti Patel and Rwanda's minister for foreign affairs, Vincent Biruta, sat together in Kigali on 14 April and signed a deal to send asylum seekers to the east African state, few thought the agreement would actually happen.

Rumours had swirled for months about the plans to halt the growing numbers of asylum seekers arriving in the UK on small boats, but nothing had come of previous Home Office ideas, confirmed and unconfirmed, including wave machines in the Channel and a policy to turn dinghies round.

While the government was undoubtedly under political pressure because of the huge rise in crossings - more than 25,000 so far this year - the policy to export asylum seekers en masse from one of the world's richest countries to one of the poorest 4,000 miles away, was so radical that no other country in the world had attempted anything exactly like it.

When the deal was announced, details of how it would work were



▲ More than 25,000 asylum seekers have crossed the Channel so far this year

GARETH FULLER/PA

£120m

The initial sum paid to Rwanda by the UK to aid economic growth and growth in the country

£20m

A previously undisclosed sum paid to Rwanda as an incentive to abide by the UK asylum seeker deal

scant. But a high court case this week challenging various aspects of the policy has revealed what went on behind the scenes, thanks to the government disclosure of a mass of internal documents before the court hearing. Although Sir James Eadie KC, representing the government, assured the court on Thursday the scheme has specific built-in safeguarding elements, little has emerged in the documents to give comfort to critics.

What they show is concern after concern expressed about the unsuitability of Rwanda as a country of asylum. These include extrajudicial killings, recruitment of refugees to conduct armed operations in neighbouring countries, including 15- to 17-year-olds to fight in the restive east of

the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a red traffic-light rating in relation to its human rights record, and a clear recommendation made to the director general at the Home Office on 23 April 2021 not to pursue Rwanda as an option.

From April 2021, Patel and the-then prime minister Boris Johnson took an energetic interest in Rwanda, along with two other unnamed countries. A disclosure from 1 April 2021 says: "The PM himself is chasing." No 10 asked if sending a small number of asylum seekers would change the "political calculus". The answer from officials continued to be a loud "no".

When UNHCR, the UN refugee agency, learned of the deal it raised concerns about refoulement of some refugees and an under-

developed system to process individual asylum claims. The UNHCR provided evidence that almost all LGBT asylum seekers had left Rwanda because of an inability there to progress claims, and it identified a 100% refusal rate for Afghan, Syrian and Yemeni cases. Many of the people the Home Office wants to send to Rwanda come from those countries.

Alongside a £120m payment of development money, Rwanda has been paid a previously undisclosed £20m as an incentive to abide by the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed in April. But if Rwanda breaches the MoU it cannot be held to account by any court. It emerged that while asylum seekers sent to Rwanda will receive food and accommodation, they will have to pay their own legal fees for the first two stages of the asylum process.

The two judges in the case, Lord Justice Lewis and Mr Justice Swift, are unlikely to hand down judgment in this complex case for a couple of months as a related case by the charity Asylum Aid will be heard next month, followed by one judgment delivered for both cases.

At one point Lewis said to Eadie, who was providing assurances to the court about safeguards put in place by the government: "Unless we are satisfied Rwanda is safe it doesn't really matter what the secretary of state has done."

Some of the eight asylum seekers who are claimants in the high court action were under the control of traffickers en route to the UK so did not have the freedom to claim asylum in the European countries they passed through, as Patel had urged asylum seekers to do. Some had learning difficulties or had survived torture. One man involved in the case, a Syrian known only as AAA, said of Rwanda: "If I go there I will end my life."



▲ At its height, *The Magic Roundabout* had about 8 million viewers

PHOTOGRAPH: SIPA PRESS/REX

▲ Florence and Dougla were Margote and Pollux in the original French *Le Manège Enchanté*

Time for bed again French team give The Magic Roundabout another spin

Kim Willsher
Paris

Once upon a time, a girl called Florence with a penchant for big boots played with a dog called Dougla, a dopey rabbit called

Dylan and an unusually speedy snail called Brian in a magic garden dominated by a merry-go-round.

The names may mean nothing to anyone born in the last 40-odd years, but to those of a certain age they are instantly recognisable as characters from *The Magic Roundabout*, a French children's show that achieved cult status in Britain in the 1960s and 1970s.

For more than a decade, Florence and friends charmed young and old alike with simple stories told with a witty adult subtext every evening. Then the programme vanished into television history quicker than the talking, teleporting jack-in-the-box Zebedee could say "time for bed".

A 2005 film based on the TV series failed to revive its fortunes despite an A-list cast including Robbie Williams, Kylie Minogue, Tom Baker, Joanna Lumley, Bill Nighy and Ian McKellen. It was described as "dumbed down" and a tragic bypassing of the cheeky 60s

original. Plans for a sequel were quickly binned.

Now, Florence and friends are set to enchant a new generation of pre-school youngsters with a series of 52 11-minute programmes produced by Method Animation, the company behind *The Little Prince* and *Robin Hood*. It is expected to air in 2024.

The producer, Camille Oesch, said there was huge global interest in reviving the programme and that while the new series was aimed at a young audience aged three to five,

it hoped to "recreate the magic of *The Magic Roundabout*".

"We want to respect the characters, personalities and spirit of the original. It's not a question of going back into the past, but of reviving this iconic work with the techniques of the present," Oesch said. "In England, *The Magic Roundabout* was not just an iconic programme of the 1960s, it was a cultural reference in animation, but the context today isn't the same as in the 1960s so we have to find a path between the two. The

response has been enormous. Many channels are interested."

The Magic Roundabout started life as *Le Manège Enchanté*, created by Serge Danot, whose previous claim to fame was that he had helped paint the Eiffel Tower. His pink, red, blue and orange merry-go-round was set in a magic garden in which the colour green, which he hated, was bizarrely absent.

In 2004, Danot's widow, Martine, now in her early 70s, recalled how Dougla - Pollux in the French version - was an unexpected star. "He was originally a minor character. At first he didn't say anything, he just made a strange noise. But viewers began writing asking to see more of the dog, so he became the main character," she said. "Serge gave him a heavy English accent, which French people found enormously amusing. He went, 'Bow, wow, wow'." (French dogs go, "Ouah, ouah"). Dylan was called Flappy and had a heavy Spanish accent, while Brian was Ambroise and Ermintrude the cow, Azalée.

France's state broadcaster originally commissioned 13 programmes, the first of which went out in black and white in October 1964. It was an instant hit, and more episodes were ordered. In the end, Danot made about 700



▲ A new Florence for a new generation of children - from the French reboot of *The Magic Roundabout*, due for release in 2024 PHOTOGRAPH: METHOD ANIMATION

and *The Magic Roundabout* went global; it was translated into 30 languages and broadcast in more than 60 countries, including Iran.

The BBC was initially unimpressed, rejecting the programme twice as charming but too "weird", before agreeing to buy it in 1965. Its success in the UK was credited to the narrator Eric Thompson - father of the actor Emma Thompson. He was presenting the BBC's *Play School* at the time. Thompson deemed the original French stories dull. Instead of translating them, he turned down the French sound and made up the narrative as he went along.

While it was a huge hit with children, Thompson's double entendres also appealed to adults. At its height, *The Magic Roundabout*, shown in the five-minute slot before the early evening news on BBC1, had about 8 million viewers. To young fans, the hippy, guitar-strumming Dylan was just dopey, when it was evident to 60s parents that he had been smoking something. And what was in those sugar cubes that sent Dougla spinning? Every episode ended with Zebedee - Ze Baddie, another Thompson invention for the French *Zébulon* - declaring: "Time for bed".

Danot suspected the name Dougla was a sly dig at the French president Charles de Gaulle.

Jérôme Brizé, the founder of Magic, co-producers of the new series, who manages the rights to *The Magic Roundabout* on behalf of Martine Danot, admits Thompson's approach gave the UK version a certain adult appeal, but doubts he would get away with doing so these days. "I guess he was sent the scripts in French but I don't think they were translated. He certainly took some liberties, but this was part of his genius. I think the UK was the only place where the programme was addressed to adults as well as children."

Brizé added: "We hope to recreate the spirit and English humour, but we will be taking it back to its roots as a series for children."

Oesch agreed this was a challenge: "We will be trying hard to find a balance between the French and English contexts."

Mourning period will not delay £100bn energy bill help – No 10

Rowena Mason

Deputy political editor

Liz Truss's plans to legislate for a £100bn package of help with energy bills will not be affected by 10 days of national mourning for the Queen despite parliament being cancelled for the next week, Downing Street has said.

The government is postponing most business until after the Queen's funeral, but Truss's team needs to implement the package before the energy price rise is due to come into force on 1 October.

Parliament is unlikely to return

again until after the Queen's funeral, with the earliest possible dates 19 or 20 September. However, it is due to break up again on 22 September for party conference recess, and Truss is supposed to be in New York for the United Nations general assembly for part of that week.

Yesterday Downing Street insisted there would be plans put in place to make sure the support package is available in time, and suggested legislation would not be needed for the £2,500 cap on average bills to be put in place.

"The public should be reassured that the energy price guarantee will be in place for households from

October 1, as planned," Truss's official spokesperson said.

"We're implementing that guarantee initially through private contracts with suppliers rather than through legislation, so this mourning period doesn't impact that introduction.

"We're working urgently now on the wider aspects of the policy to ensure it can be delivered. As it stands we do not believe the mourning period would impact on delivery of the policy, neither do we think it requires any sort of legislative moments during the mourning period.

"We will be working with the Speaker to introduce any legislation

that is required for as soon as possible after the mourning period concludes."

With ministers holding back from outlining further details during the mourning period, energy suppliers are expected to contact customers before 1 October with how the announcement affects them.

Truss also announced an immediate lifting of the fracking ban in England this week, despite the Tory manifesto pledging not to do so unless it was scientifically proven to be safe amid concerns over earthquakes.

However, a British Geological Survey review into the safety of extracting shale gas was postponed from its scheduled publication on Thursday. Downing Street said this will now not be published until after the mourning period, with the official spokesman saying it will come "as soon as that period has concluded".

Party conference season has already been affected by the national mourning, as the Trades Union Congress conference due to take place

in Brighton next week has now been postponed.

The Lib Dem conference is also hanging in the balance, as that is scheduled for the week afterwards, potentially clashing with the Queen's funeral, which is likely to be on 18 or 19 September. Party sources suggested it was unlikely to be delayed until another time but could be curtailed or cancelled altogether.

Labour conference, which is due to start on 25 September in Liverpool, is thought to be very likely to go ahead.

One Tory source put the chances of the Conservative party conference in Birmingham from Sunday 2 October at 85-90% likely to go ahead, with a decision "in the next few days".

Conversations between the whips of the parties have taken place on the possibility of cancelling the entire season, with a source saying the Tories seemed keenest on the idea of postponement, but that there had been no agreement and the main two parties were expected to proceed.

New PM

Truss had her plans set out – and then events took a hand

Jessica Elgot

Rowena Mason

On Monday night, Liz Truss was holding forth at a victory party on the rooftop of Deliveroo's headquarters in Cannon Street, before leaving early to prepare for her audience with the Queen the next day. Thérèse Coffey, her soon-to-be deputy prime minister, hit the dance floor along with aides.

Little did they know their sense of jubilation was to be short-lived. With just hours of experience as prime minister behind her, Truss has found herself leading the nation through a period of national mourning following the death of the Queen on Thursday afternoon.

However, in the few short days before all government business was effectively suspended, Truss was not idle. She managed to complete a relatively hitch-free cabinet reshuffle, announce a £100bn-£150bn package of relief on energy bills, and replace almost the entirety of Boris Johnson's Downing Street operation.

Truss had evidently prepared to a high degree as it became obvious she would triumph over her rival, Rishi Sunak. Over the last three weeks of the campaign, she spent much of her time planning



◀ Liz Truss signs a book of condolence for the Queen. Within hours of her taking her new job, Truss had to deal with the death of the monarch

PHOTOGRAPH:
UK PARLIAMENT/
JESSICA TAYLOR

for government with a clutch of close aides at her grace-and-favour retreat in Chevening.

Truss had much of the logistics stitched up before she even entered No 10. She was also a diplomat; awkward conversations took place by phone over the past week so that those who were departing would be prepared. Negotiations over positions took place over days, sometimes weeks beforehand, ensuring there would be no standoffs to set tongues wagging.

Two of the square pegs who Truss found most difficult to fit in were her leadership rivals Kemi Badenoch and Penny Mordaunt. Badenoch had been keen to take over as culture secretary and Mordaunt rejected the job of party chair. Friends of Mordaunt, who came a close third to Truss and was

subject to a damaging campaign against her mounted by Truss supporters, said she had been hoping to be foreign secretary.

But Truss opted to place her most ambitious potential challengers in low-key jobs with little chance to build a substantial policy profile. "If you're Liz you don't want Kemi in the Telegraph every week with juicy ideas," one MP backing Truss observed. "She is quite obviously more of a future prospect for the party than Penny or Suella [Braverman, the home secretary] now."

The reshuffle publicly started on Tuesday but appointments went on late into the night largely because of calls between Truss and foreign leaders, the most important with the US president, Joe Biden, and Ukraine's president, Volodymyr

Zelenskiy. Truss finished around midnight, but aides said she was back at her desk by 6am, preparing for cabinet.

As for her rivals, most of Sunak's most prominent backers were on the Commons terrace after losing the leadership contest on Monday. Departing ministers, including Grant Shapps, George Eustice and Steve Barclay, bought rounds of farewell drinks for their staff before they had even been told officially that they were out.

In contrast to the glum Sunak gang, there was a big smile on the face of Keir Starmer, who in a rare appearance on the terrace was mobbed by Conservative MPs, two of whom jokingly congratulated him on winning the next election. Two former ministers said they were despondent about the party's

future, with one saying throwing themselves in the Thames was a similarly appealing prospect.

Truss will now have to contend with a break in her plans for government, using the time to take stock and work out the details of her energy bailout – which was published without an explanation for how it would be funded.

When business returns after 10 days of national mourning culminating in the Queen's funeral, she will have a huge amount to get done in a compressed time period.

Politics may not be as pugilistic as normal this autumn, but the new prime minister's in-tray is still building up, with her government bracing for an economic crisis, potential energy shortages and an NHS on its knees before too long.

British Gas owner offers to cap its booming profits to deflect fury over household bills

Alex Lawson

Energy correspondent

Centrica, owner of British Gas, plans voluntarily to cap booming profits in an effort to cut household bills and defuse outrage, the Guardian can reveal.

The chief executive, Chris O'Shea, said he was keen for Centrica to become the first company to sign up to new, renegotiated contracts with the government on its electricity generation, amid controversy over windfall gains.

As part of Liz Truss's £150bn energy bills freeze, renewable and nuclear power generators will be asked to supply electricity below current market rates - but the new prime minister has refused to impose a windfall tax on them.

Ministers plan to negotiate with generators on older wind, solar and nuclear contracts, which have benefited from windfall gains as the price of gas has soared, to persuade them to switch to newer, less lucrative deals that will lock in lower prices in return for guaranteed long-term income.

Centrica, as well as being the UK's biggest supplier of gas and electricity to households through British Gas,

is also a big electricity generator through its 20% stake in Britain's nuclear power stations.

O'Shea said Centrica was willing to switch the five nuclear plants to the new-style contracts. He said he was also prepared to draw up long-term contracts with the government for Centrica's North Sea gas fields, which are not covered by the initiative and have already been subject to the windfall tax, announced earlier this year by the then chancellor Rishi Sunak. North Sea oil and gas extraction does not receive subsidies.

O'Shea said he had discussed the idea, backed by the industry body Energy UK, with the government and talks were ongoing. "We are in this business for the long term. We're not in this business to maximise our profit this year," he said.

Energy firms have supported the "contracts for difference" proposals, which give investors certainty over the levels of returns they can receive, potentially years after the energy crisis has abated.

However, the Resolution Foundation has said the policy risked "delaying but locking in" windfall gains. There are concerns that the government negotiating team, led by the former vaccines director Madeline McTernan, is in a weak position as it will need to convince generators to forego high short-term prices.

O'Shea would not say what proportion of profits he was prepared to relinquish or how much Centrica hoped to receive from government. He said: "Sometimes if you go to the government and propose you take a lower price they look at you like there must be something else in it for you. We are obviously in this business to create value for all of our stakeholders, customers, country [and] colleagues. But it's not about maximising this year's profits; it's about having a long-term sustainable business. We supply over eight million homes and businesses in the UK - if they can't afford their energy, we don't have a sustainable business."

In July, Centrica reported first-half operating profits of £1.3bn and doled out £59m to shareholders. The company said it had achieved an 11% gain in volumes of nuclear power generated in the first half of 2022 and the price for nuclear power had risen from £46.5 per megawatt hour in 2021 to £110.4. Centrica also posted a surge in half-year profits from its exploration, production, and nuclear operations division, reaching £906m, up from £75m.



Cooking on gas

£1.3bn

Centrica's first-half operating profits, with £59m being handed out to shareholders

£110

The price achieved for nuclear power per megawatt hour, reported in July - up from £46 in 2021

£906m

Exploration, production and nuclear operations division half-year profits - up from £75m

▼ Angi Long says she has found 'massive ageism' in the rental sector and feels trapped by the cost of living

PHOTOGRAPH: ANGI LONG



Rise of the older sharers

The over-50s priced out of living alone

Rachel Hall

Marie, an English teacher, is 53 and sharing a flat with her friend and their family. It is noisy and cramped and she is desperate to move into her own home - but she can't. Rents are high in East Sussex, where she lives, and competition for properties is high, with estate agents prioritising dual-income families.

"I'm looking all the time. I have to move. It's not conducive to my mental health or wellbeing here," she says. Marie teaches English to refugees. "None of them can believe their teacher is struggling to make ends meet and to have somewhere to live, they are flabbergasted."

"I don't need a lot - just a one-bed flat and a garden. It shouldn't be too much to ask. I did everything right: I went to school, to university, I have two degrees, 15 years of experience in my field."

Marie's story is an increasingly common one. Data from the house-sharing platform Spareroom for 2011/2021 shows a 114% increase in people aged 45-55 looking for rooms, and a 239% increase in those aged 55-64. While some are choosing to share for social reasons and because there is less stigma than in the past, many are priced out of living alone.

Matt Hutchinson, of Spareroom, said the cost of living crisis had had "a huge impact on the rental market" and predicted the situation was likely to "get worse before [it gets] better". Among older flat-sharers are people who have faced life-changing circumstances and can no longer afford to rent on their own. Others are long-term renters who "simply can't afford to get on to the property ladder", he said.

Cohabitas, a flat-sharing platform for people over 40, has seen a 44% increase in users over the past six months. Its research suggests that 93% are motivated by financial reasons.

Co-founder Nick Henley said "structural issues with housing" were driving the increase. "The cost of living has been an issue for people for about 20 years, but now it's reaching more people," he said.

"They're more open to house-sharing because of changing social norms, and fewer have the capability to own a home, so all these factors are squeezing people and accelerating what has been underlying."

Henley added that flat-sharing in later life is different - people tend to be better at keeping the space clean, being considerate of noise and respecting privacy, but there tends to be less in-house socialising. Older renters who spoke to the Guardian said they did not spend quality time with their housemates and felt trapped in their situation, with the soaring cost of bills extinguishing any hope of finding a place of their own.

Angi Long, 60, a housing association administrator, said she

had hoped for the "Scandinavian view of older people living together in a community, helping each other out and becoming friends".

"That's lovely, but it hasn't worked out," she says. In her seven-person house, most people stay in their own rooms and rarely use the communal lounge. She says "there is massive ageism out there" - and feels "trapped" by rising costs. "Looking forward, bills will increase quite considerably over the next year," she adds. "Do I want to sit tight for another year?"

In areas where housing is expensive - a growing swathe of the country - many people in employment are struggling to afford a studio or one-bedroom flat, but for people on universal credit it is even more difficult.

Joseph, 55, was placed in a 12-person house-share by a West Midlands council after a period of homelessness. He pays £400 a month for a room in a house full of "mould and rats". His mental health has deteriorated to the point he is having suicidal thoughts.

Landlords are reluctant to accept him and the local housing market is competitive, he says. "I don't know when I'm going to get myself somewhere proper where my son can come round, sit with his dad, play computer games. It's just a no-win situation."

His frustration is shared by Martin, who turns 60 this year. He is unable to work for health reasons, and can only afford a room shared in a house.

He has been a long-term renter since the early 1990s, when his property fell into negative equity, leaving him unable to take out another mortgage. He has to move regularly due to landlords who renovate properties, briefly rent them out, and sell them on.

He wants to be able to "put more emphasis on stability" and move into his own place. "It feels like my choices are pretty limited, he says.

Martin has a bleak take on the silver linings to his situation: "If nothing else I've learned to be a bit more accepting ... It's not ideal, but the property owner is decent, and the agent is crap but manageable."

'I don't need a lot - just a one-bedroom flat and a garden. It shouldn't be too much to ask. It's rather incredible ...'

Marie, 53
English teacher

Patently inspired: AI toaster just one of UK's bright ideas in 2021

Michael Goodier

A toaster that uses artificial intelligence to get the perfect level of brownness each time, a device to humanely remove flying insects from a room, and a sensor that tells you when a nappy needs changing were among the thousands of things UK-based inventors created last year.

A Guardian analysis of patent applications listed by the Intellectual

Property Office (IPO) found 6,087 patent applications published with at least one UK-based inventor listed in 2021.

Cambridge was the most inventive area in the UK, with 146 invention applications listed for every 100,000 residents. Those included a coffee-making apparatus, invented by William Playford, that is still yet to be examined by the IPO.

The machine - a modification of an earlier design - has a pressure valve and a cooling chamber that allows

'I was one of these people that just got really annoyed when the toast popped up too early'

Philip Davies
Inventor

coffee to be brewed at the desired espresso temperature.

After Cambridge, the area with the most applications per person in 2021 was South Cambridgeshire, with 105 for each 100,000 residents. It was followed by Three Rivers in Hertfordshire (86), Spelthorne in Surrey (70), and Westminster in London (69).

Most patents across the country related to highly esoteric, technical, or scientific devices and methods. However, many of the applications were for tools that could be used by everyday consumers. These included an application for an AI-controlled toaster invented by Philip Davies of Southsea, Portsmouth.

"I was one of these people that just got really annoyed when the toast popped up too early," he said. "I'd put it down again, then forget about it and it would come up black."

His application (currently pending) aims to "provide a system that can consistently toast bread products to the desired level of browning", by using a neural network trained on thousands of images of toasted bread. Despite initial interest from Dualit, Sage Appliances and Kenwood, the device is yet to come to market.

"I've forgotten what burnt toast is," he said. "I think I've got the best toaster in the world at the moment and we've had it for a few years. I'm just a bit frustrated that other people don't have a similar one."

Peter Foster, from Hickling in Norfolk, invented a device that promises a more hygienic and humane way of ridding rooms of flies. The device - granted patent by the IPO - consists of an air amplifier with an entrance and exit, and insect attracting means such as a UV light placed near the entrance.

It promises to keep "our indoor spaces as free from flying insects as is reasonably practicable without replacing them with cadavers, and without any moral unease".

Mohamad Yasser Al Aioubi and Syed Ejazul Huq from Oxfordshire were listed as the joint inventors of a "sensing device for a nappy". Their invention, currently in order for a grant, promises to help carers and nappy wearers by removing the need for manual nappy checks thanks to an attached sensing device that can check for nappy fullness.

Some inventions have featured on Dragons' Den. Tristan Holbrook from Kinross had his patent for a gas-flushing toilet granted by the IPO - but failed to secure any investment for his "Bubble Bog" from the dragons.

Other patent applications included a device to stop rodents moving along pipes, a method to stop ballet dancers' feet from slipping in their shoes, a satellite-linked cigarette substitute that allows you to track how much you vape, and a shock collar to stop dogs fighting each other.

The figures show Covid was still influencing inventors. Six applications mentioned "face mask" in the title, two mentioned "social distancing" and 13 mentioned "ventilation".

Crypto was also popular, with 26 applications from UK-based inventors mentioning the word "blockchain".

► Philip Davies, in his kitchen in Southsea, Portsmouth, believes his AI-powered device 'is the best toaster in the world'

PHOTOGRAPH: PETER FLUDE/THE GUARDIAN



Man arrested over IRA bombing of Manchester city centre in 1996

Jamie Grierson

A man has been arrested in connection with the 1996 bombing of Manchester city centre.

Greater Manchester police said the man was held at Birmingham airport on Thursday night on suspicion of terrorism offences.

His arrest is in connection with inquiries into the IRA bomb which exploded in Manchester on 15 June 1996, the force said. He will be interviewed by officers from Counter Terrorism Policing North West.

Det Supt Andrew Meeks, head of investigations, said: "Although thankfully no one was killed during the 1996 bombing by the IRA, hundreds of people were left with injuries - many of

which were life-changing - and many more across Greater Manchester and the north-west were affected by what happened on that day.

"We have always been committed to holding those responsible for the attack to account and bringing them to justice and have been reinvestigating for several years, with a team of



▲ Footage from a police helicopter of the 1996 Manchester bombing

dedicated detectives re-examining the original case files and pursuing new lines of inquiry.

"Following the arrest, we have contacted individuals who were victims of this horrific attack to ensure they're updated, as we know for many people this will bring back memories of that terrible day and we are doing all we can to support our communities and those who were affected."

He added: "We remain determined to hold those responsible for this attack to account regardless of the time passed and would still encourage anyone who has any information that could assist our inquiries to get in touch via the major incident portal."

The 3,300lb (1,500kg) bomb caused massive damage and injured more than 200 people.

Football fans had gathered in the city centre ahead of a Euro 96 match between England and Scotland at Wembley stadium in London. The area was evacuated after a phoned bomb threat. The device detonated soon after in a parked lorry.

Black motorist shooting: police watchdog opens homicide inquiry

PA Media

The police watchdog has launched a homicide investigation into the fatal shooting of Chris Kaba by armed Metropolitan police officers in south London.

The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) decided to investigate after reviewing the evidence gathered so far after the death of the black motorist in Streatham Hill on Monday night.

Kaba, 24, was driving a car which was first rammed before being boxed in by police. He was killed by a single

shot that entered through the driver's side of the windscreen of the Audi.

The IOPC has previously confirmed that no gun was found in the vehicle. It has now emerged that the car, which was flagged as being linked to a firearms incident days earlier, was not owned by Kaba.

"Mr Kaba died after a single shot was fired by an MPS officer from the specialist firearms command while police attempted to stop and contain the vehicle he was driving," the IOPC said. "This followed the activation of an automatic number plate recognition camera which indicated the vehicle was linked to a firearms incident. The vehicle Mr Kaba was driving was not registered to him."

Kaba's family had already called for the officers to be placed under criminal investigation by the IOPC.

On Wednesday, they said: "We are devastated; we need answers and we need accountability. We are worried that if Chris had not been Black, he would have been arrested on Monday and not had his life cut short."



PHOTOGRAPH:
PETER ISMERT

Feather dust-up Peter Ismert's image of a tussle between two sage grouse in Colorado has won the behaviour category in the 2022 Bird photographer of the year competition. The overall winner was Erlend Haarberg for an image of a rock ptarmigan taking flight over the frozen landscape of Tysfjorden, Norway. More than 20,000 entries were received from around the world.

New Met chief boosts 'Line of Duty' unit to root out prejudiced and corrupt officers

Vikram Dodd

Police and crime correspondent

The new Metropolitan police commissioner is rushing scores of new investigators into the fight to root out prejudiced and corrupt officers, the Guardian has learned.

Mark Rowley, who starts on Monday, will launch a 100-day plan to turn Britain's biggest force around.

The Met, which has been mired in crisis, was humiliatingly judged to be so poor it was placed under special measures by the official inspectorate this year.

Rowley replaces Cressida Dick, who was ousted in February with the Met facing demands to radically reform. Among Rowley's plans are:

- Boosting the proportion of crimes the Met solves.
- Better service to victims of crime.
- More officers in neighbourhoods and kept there to build relations.
- Boosting public confidence which crashed in the five years under Dick.

- Identify more corrupt and prejudiced officers and take quicker action against them.

The big drive against prejudiced and corrupt officers will see a boost of more than 30% in the number of investigators in the Met's own "Line of Duty unit", known as the Directorate of Professional Standards (DPS).

Among the scandals to have rocked the Met was the kidnap, rape and murder of Sarah Everard in 2021 by Wayne Couzens, a serving officer.

There have also been scandals over vile hate messages exchanged between officers on social media platforms, some bragging about violence against women, some overtly racist, and in one case swapping images taken by officers at the scene where two sisters lay murdered.

Rowley's plans will see more than 130 new investigators recruited into the DPS, with more covert work planned and its technical capabilities boosted. It will have faster and more comprehensive access to intelligence systems. As well as catching more

wrongdoing, chiefs in the new Met regime hope the extra officers will dramatically slash the time it takes to bring disciplinary hearings against officers suspected of offences.

The plans involve more rigorous monitoring of work phones and computers for signs of wrongdoing. Rowley has decided against, for now, extending that to random checks on personal devices.

The extra officers investigating wrongdoing risk a flurry of cases generating damaging headlines, but the calculation among the new Met leadership is they want to demonstrate a new determination to clamp down on toxic cultures blighting the force. One insider said: "It will get worse before it gets better."

Dick's five-year term as commissioner ended with her resignation after she alienated both the Home Office and, crucially, the London mayor, Sadiq Khan.

He lost confidence in her ability to enact reforms quickly or radically enough, but a report last week found he had effectively constructively dismissed Dick.

In truth, pledging rapid reforms



▲ Mark Rowley takes over from Cressida Dick as the new Met chief

were a crucial promise anyone hoping to succeed Dick as Met commissioner had to make and act on.

The advert for Met commissioner published by both the Conservative-run Home Office and Labour mayor, demanded "rooting out unacceptable behaviour at all levels, including misogyny, racism and homophobia".

It called for reform of the "institutional culture", and restoration of "public confidence" and "legitimacy" in Britain's biggest force.

The findings of the inquiries into the Met and its culture, one ordered by the force itself and the other by government, will be delayed for legal reasons.

The outgoing home secretary, Priti Patel, who after consulting Khan appointed Rowley, sent an open letter this weekend demanding radical changes from the new commissioner, who is paid £293,000 a year.

Patel called for "extensive reform" and demanded Rowley "promote better leadership and higher standards at every level throughout the force".

She added: "Londoners need to be assured that improvements are being made immediately and will have an impact. I expect the MPS, under your leadership, clearly to demonstrate that it will learn from the appalling mistakes of the past and move the culture away from the organisational defensiveness that has hindered progress and damaged public trust."

Rowley, 57, a former head of counter-terrorism, left the Met in 2018 and returns after time in the private sector. He has vowed to be "ruthless in removing those who are corrupting our integrity".

Using AI with X-rays hailed as new way to check for drugs or explosives

PA Media

Illegal and dangerous items such as explosives could be detected with 100% efficiency using artificial intelligence and a new X-ray approach, researchers at University College London say.

Some explosives can be difficult to spot with a conventional X-ray alone, and the new method could revolutionise how illicit products such as drugs, smuggled wildlife and explosives are detected.

Researchers say their findings may have significant implications for the security sector, as well as healthcare and other industries.

The senior author of the research, Prof Sandro Olivo at UCL's medical physics and biomedical engineering department, said: "This is a radically different way of inspecting materials and objects by analysing textures, and allows us a new way of detecting illicit materials."

"The tiny bends in X-rays have always been there, but they are invisible to conventional X-ray systems, so this allows us to access a huge amount of previously untapped information."

"So far, we have shown it works extremely well for detecting explosives, but it could be used in any application that relies on X-rays, such as medical imaging or detecting weaknesses in industrial structures."

The team, led by UCL researchers, combined a new X-ray measuring technique with AI machine learning, and tested it in a custom-developed security scanner, using objects containing hidden explosive material as well as safe objects.

Through earlier research, Olivo had discovered that microscopic changes or irregularities in objects caused X-ray beams to bend as they passed through them.

The new method relies on measuring these tiny bends as the beam moves through objects of different textures.

The bend occurs at angles as small as a microradian, which is about 20,000 times smaller than a degree. The team combined the measurement of these angles, known as microradian scatter, with AI to accurately identify objects and materials through their texture. According to the study, when tested on explosives, the detection rate was 100%.

A co-author of the research, Tristram Riley-Smith, XPCI Technology founder and UK Research and Innovation's external champion for conflict, crime and security, said: "This research has demonstrated the potential to transform the detection of covert threats around the world, as well as ... narcotics and illicit wildlife commodities."

The findings are published in the journal Nature Communications.

Eyewitnessed Pictures of the week

► Boris and Carrie Johnson as the then prime minister makes his final appearance outside No 10 on Tuesday before heading to Scotland to offer his resignation to the Queen

GUY BELL/REX/
SHUTTERSTOCK



▲ The new prime minister, Liz Truss, is greeted by staff as she arrives at 10 Downing Street on Tuesday

ANDREW PARSONS/
NO 10 DOWNING ST



◀ Sunset at Lake Pier in Poole, Dorset, on Wednesday during a break in thunderstorms that swept across much of England

RACHEL BAKER/BNPS



◀ A venomous pit viper in West Sumatra, Indonesia, displays a rarely seen blue colour caused by a change in the snake's hormones

PHOTOGRAPH: YAN HIDAYAT/MEDIA DRUM



▲ A woman and her baby at a refugee camp in Baidoa, Somalia. Drought has displaced many people and left 7 million at risk of famine in the country

ED RAM/GETTY IMAGES



▲ Hugh Jackman with fans at the premiere on Wednesday of *The Son* at the Venice international film festival

KATE GREEN/GETTY IMAGES



◀ A lifeguard waits to take part in an inshore sea rescue competition on a beach in Hossegor, south-west France

PHILIPPE LOPEZ/AFP/GETTY



From Baguette to Baywatch

New York taps into Gen Z's love of the 90s

Chloe Mac Donnell

Fashion week is often focused on the future, but designers in New York this season are being nostalgic, with echoes of the 00s and 90s ringing around the Big Apple.

Fendi kicked off day one of fashion week with an anniversary show celebrating 25 years of the Baguette. The original It bag came to prominence in 2000 when Sex and the City's Sarah Jessica Parker as Carrie Bradshaw was forced at gunpoint to hand over her purple sequinned version. "Give me your bag," the robber yells. "It's a Baguette!" wails Carrie.

In homage to the Baguette's legacy, Fendi's artistic director of womenswear, Kim Jones, invited friends of the fashion house including Marc Jacobs and Parker to present their own interpretation of the shoulder bag at a star-studded event. On the same day, Marc Jacobs' subsidiary line Heavn, beloved by Gen Z, unveiled a campaign starring 90s TV stars such as Baywatch's Pamela Anderson and Twin Peaks' Kyle MacLachan.

Tomorrow night, Tommy Hilfiger will return to the city after a three-year hiatus. Hilfiger, who dominated the scene in the 90s, said: "This is where fashion, art, music and entertainment was all coming together when I started out ... It's the perfect expression of what we stand for as we pay homage to our roots ..."

Throughout the pandemic, millennials and Gen Z embraced late-90s nostalgia and this devotion shows no sign of abating. Emily Gordon-Smith, from the trend analysis agency Stylus, has been tracking the trend. "It's ramping up even more and becoming more nuanced," she says. "For the youth

► Fendi's Baguette came to prominence when Carrie Bradshaw, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, had a purple sequin version stolen in an episode of *Sex and the City*

PHOTOGRAPH: INSTAGRAM

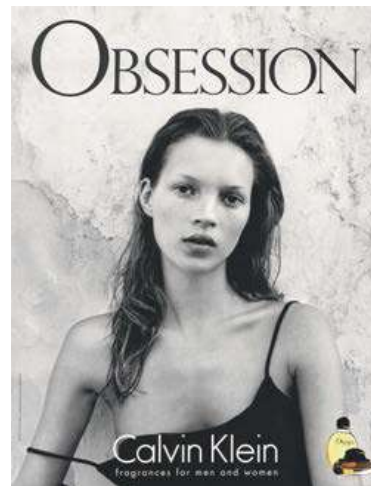


◀ Fendi kicked off day one of New York fashion week with a celebration of 25 years of the Baguette

PHOTOGRAPH: JEREMY MOELLER/GETTY



▲ Lila Moss, left, models for Calvin Klein; her mother, Kate, right, modelled for the brand 30 years ago PHOTOGRAPHS: INSTAGRAM/ THE ADVERTISING ARCHIVES



cohort it feels like those decades were better and simpler times."

The 90s theme is everywhere in New York. On the newsstand, W Magazine celebrates its 50th anniversary with issues starring the 90s models Cindy Crawford, Iman and Shalom Harlow. On billboards, Kate Moss's daughter, Lila, features in a Calvin Klein campaign, 30 years after Moss first modelled for the brand, while Jerry Seinfeld fronts a campaign for the streetwear brand Kith. On screen, the Sex and the City spinoff And Just Like That... has been recommissioned, such is

the appetite for its high drama and even higher heels.

There is a notable shift towards more streamlined silhouettes, too. The British designer Roland Mouret, who has dressed everyone from the Duchess of Cambridge to Beyoncé in his signature bodycon dresses, is having a resurgence. After entering administration in 2020, his label was acquired by the SP Collection group. On the high street, Zara has unveiled a collaboration with the 90s designer Narciso Rodriguez. Known for his slip and sheath dresses, he

delved into his archives to bring minimalism to the masses.

The trend is evident in the next generation of designers too. Take Connor Ives and Miss Sohee, who are both part of The Vanguard, an initiative from Net-a-Porter that aims to champion and support new talent. Form-fitting silhouettes and glistening crystals feature heavily in their designs. Their references? The Y2K era they grew up in.

Behind this trend is social media. While previous generations had to wait to see their favourite celebrities in magazines, Gen Zs have an archive at their fingertips, helping them create nostalgic edits, with a string of throwback Instagram accounts such as @90sanxiety. Think Polaroid snaps of the Spice Girls and pap shots of Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston. Secondhand sites such as Depop have created a wave of sellers who appeal to this cohort too. Some specialise in Y2K labels such as Blumarine, Morgan and Kookai.

With brands trying to juggle issues such as sustainability, Gordon-Smith says there is often less time for creativity. "Nostalgia touchpoints are easy design cues. Even places like Zara can look at its own archives and resurrect pieces. There are so many avenues brands and consumers can explore, it's a complete warren of nostalgia."

TV review

Tense thriller revisits terror of Olympic city massacre

Munich Games

Sky Atlantic

★★★★☆

Stuart Jeffries

There's a Mossad operative trying to look inconspicuous in a stairwell on the wrong side of Munich. But he's not very good at it. One of the underscripted, probably Islamist enforcers who patrol this downtrodden estate snatches his phone and glances at the screen. "Jew!" he exclaims. It's probably the text message in Hebrew that is the giveaway.

As the estate enforcers showily duff up this interloper, two things are clear. First, antisemitism is alive and well in the modern-day Munich depicted in this tense, gripping, engagingly gnomish six-part spy thriller. And two, the Mossad should really think again about putting geeky computer analysts in the field if it is serious about thwarting a mass murder of Israeli athletes at the Olympic stadium.

The premise for Michal Aviram's Munich Games (Sky Atlantic) is that 50 years after the Palestine Liberation Organisation-affiliated Black September terror group's attack at the Olympic Village - which left 11 members of Israel's team and a West German policeman dead, along with five hostage takers - some bright spark has come up with an idea to mark the anniversary with a friendly football match between teams from Tel Aviv and Munich. As misplaced ideas for public events in 2022 go, it's right up there with Unboxed, this summer's festival of Brexit.

Aviram only hints at what happened 50 years ago with some black and white footage in the opening credits. West German police were on alert for a terror attack but warnings about PLO-fringe groups were largely ignored. Millions of television viewers around the world saw Black September's attack unfold in real time, from their initial demand that PLO prisoners in Israeli jails be released to their defeat 20 hours later.

As in Steven Spielberg's 2005 film Munich, these events form the back story. In Munich Games, a Mossad techie is hoping to thwart a copycat attack. Aviram has created something as hard-boiled if not as unrelentingly masculinist as her 2015 Israeli spy drama Fauda, and much more intriguing.

▼ Ships' officers, such as Robert Camby of P&O Cruises, were found to be among the higher earners when overall wellbeing was factored in



Not just about the pay: study reveals best and worst jobs

Robert Booth

Social affairs correspondent

If you seek happiness, try captaining a ship or tiling walls for a living. But choose to be a judge, a housing officer or a theme park attendant and prepare for a measure of misery.

Groundbreaking research into UK employees' "full earnings" that tries to account for wellbeing as well as cash income has revealed the jobs where the reality of the working day undermines the benefit of salary and those that offer the greatest rewards in addition to pay.

The study, by academics from the London and Paris schools of economics, suggests the best jobs are marked by autonomy and provide satisfaction from completing tasks, while the worst include workers assailed by other people's problems - such as customer service workers, administrators or welfare officers.

It also found that if wellbeing is factored in, income inequality in the UK - already the worst in western Europe - is a third wider than previously believed.

"The people who do worst out of this widening gap tend to be women and ethnic minorities, and the winners tend to be white men," said Prof Andrew Clark at the Paris School of Economics.

The study was co-authored by Maria Cotofan and Prof Richard

Layard, the Labour peer who pioneered "happiness economics" and is co-editor of the World Happiness Report, which ranks the UK as the 24th happiest country in terms of average life satisfaction.

Academics monitoring wellbeing in Europe and the US have grown increasingly concerned that conventional economic measures - such as gross domestic product - underestimate social divisions, which in turn threaten political stability.

They note that anti-government protests have surged in recent years in the UK, US, France, Italy and Spain, and analysis showed voters' feelings about their income were a far better predictor of whether they voted for or against Brexit than income.

Topping the "full earnings" chart are chief executives and elected representatives such as MPs. Construction and building trades supervisors, plasterers, floorers, wall

33%

The research assesses income inequality in the UK to be a third wider than previously believed

24th

The UK's ranking in terms of average life satisfaction, according to the World Happiness Report

'Sales and customer service are terrible. There must be very little intrinsic reward to selling things'

Prof Andrew Clark
Economist, Paris SE

tilers and decorators are also close to the top because of their reported life satisfaction, despite earning less in terms of cash.

Airline pilots and ship officers join sports coaches and fitness instructors among high earners when wellbeing is factored in.

The jobs where a lack of happiness brings full earnings down include call centre workers, lawyers, IT support workers, local government administrators and hospital porters, kitchen assistants, bar and waiting staff, and theme park attendants.

Clark said workers who had autonomy, management roles, mastery of a skill or work in public service tended to have higher full earnings. "Working in health and education brings a kind of reward in terms of doing good," he said.

"Sales and customer service are terrible. There must be very little intrinsic reward to selling things."

The study used the ONS's annual population survey data 2014-18 relating to full-time employees aged 18 to 65 - a sample of 210,000 people. They were asked to rate their "life satisfaction" on a scale of 0-10 from "not at all satisfied" to "completely satisfied". Earnings were measured as real hourly earnings and each person was given one of 90 different occupation categories.

"Some low-paid occupations such as customer service, shop assistants, and low-skilled labourers also have the worst non-pecuniary aspects, resulting in full earnings that are lower than actual earnings," the researchers found.

"Some elementary construction and agricultural workers have higher full earnings once the value of amenities is taken into account." This latter finding may suggest the benefits of working outdoors.

The findings suggest satisfaction is also gained from seeing a job finished - something enjoyed on a regular basis by decorators and tilers. Their building site colleagues, steel erectors, bricklayers and carpenters had lower full earnings. They also suggest the negative impact of largely reactive jobs such as call centre operators and kitchen porters.

People with degrees had higher full earnings than those with only A-levels, GCSEs or lower qualifications.

Average life satisfaction also varies less for more high-educated people, reflecting greater wellbeing inequality for the less-educated.

Ways to reduce the hard cash inequality include taxation and raising the minimum wage, while strengthening trade unions could help with broader wellbeing if they were successful in improving broader working conditions, Clark said.

All in a day's work

Cruise ship captain

"Sitting on the bridge on sea days is breathtaking," said Robert Camby, a captain for P&O Cruises who after 27 years in the business is to helm the Arvia, a new 5,200-guest behemoth cruising the Caribbean and Mediterranean. "You will get turquoise waters, crystal clear blue skies. We sometimes head directly into the sunset and the bridge will go orange and red with the sun."

Captaining the ship is like "boys with their toys", although he stresses there are female captains too. "We also get to work with a massively diverse team. We have 50 nationalities and we get to understand so many cultures."

The main challenge is the weather and he recently had to evade 9-metre swells caused by Storm Eunice. "It was pretty horrific," he said, but he got the ship safely to Southampton.

Kitchen porter

Emptying overflowing bins was the worst part of the job for Keilon Richardson, 25, as a kitchen porter at the Fat Duck. He worked 11-hour shifts, washing dishes, compacting boxes and cleaning at Heston Blumenthal's three Michelin-starred restaurant in Bray.

George Orwell described kitchen porters as "slaves of the modern world", but Richardson was not unhappy, even when confronted by the most encrusted pan a chef had "really messed up". He enjoyed trying recipes on his family at home. "Work is a necessary process," he said. "My family is my main thing. Every job I take, I take it with them in mind."

Decorator

Hanging £600 a roll wallpaper in the homes of millionaires can be a stressful business; any mistake can cost a small fortune. But the satisfaction of a job well done is huge, said Adam Bown, 38, below, who runs Divine Decorators of Cheshire, which puts the finishing touches to million-pound refits of homes in the county's affluent "golden triangle".

"The room transformation is a really satisfying part of the job," he said, adding that he understood why decorators ranked so high in the wellbeing charts. "A lot of what we do is seen. Nobody really appreciates a boiler on the wall, but they will appreciate nice wallpaper."

Bown has painted and decorated for footballers including David Beckham and Sergio Agüero and said: "It's a nice business to be in; not too physical, but it's enough to keep you fit. I really enjoy having a good relationship with my customers." **Robert Booth**



Antigone Searing production offers lesson on power for home office

Amelia Gentleman

The incoming home secretary is unlikely to have diary space for a theatre trip this week, but some of her recent predecessors with more time on their hands may find Inua Ellams' new, loose adaptation of *Antigone* thought-provoking.

His updated, heavily rewritten version of Sophocles' play, previewing at Regent's Park open air theatre in London, has transformed the king, Creon, into a hardline home secretary whose introduction of tough anti-terror measures helps him to be elected as prime minister.

A duel between *Antigone*'s brothers becomes a shootout between a Metropolitan police officer, Eteocles, and his radicalised sibling, Polyneices, during an apparent terror attack on London involving vehicles ploughing into pedestrians.

Creon, a British Muslim politician, dumps his dead nephew, Polyneices, in an immigration detention centre, posthumously strips him of his British citizenship and prohibits his niece, *Antigone*, from organising a burial.

The action strays very far from Sophocles' *Thebes*, but this remains a Greek tragedy with many messages for Conservative home secretaries.

Sajid Javid was in the post when Ellams, a British Nigerian poet and playwright, began thinking about the production, and there are strong echoes of the government's treatment of Shamima Begum, the British teenager made stateless when Javid cancelled her



citizenship after she travelled to Syria and joined Islamic State.

The play focuses on the pressures faced by a British Asian politician struggling to find a place for himself within the Conservative party, wrestling with the electorate's perceived Islamophobia and becoming too authoritarian to fit in.

"He's a figure who strips away aspects of his identity in order to speak to the British electorate, to become what he thinks makes an appealing politician," Ellams says during a break in technical rehearsals.



◀ Ellams' interpretation of Sophocles' play features a shootout involving the Metropolitan police

▼ The play focuses on a British Asian politician in a Conservative administration

PHOTOGRAPHS: HELEN MURRAY



▲ Inua Ellams received his British citizenship after 26 years in the UK

"We learn that he has sacrificed way too much of himself in order to gain power. I hope audiences learn more about our society, about what happens when politics is pushed to such extremes, and think about who are the victims of political extremes."

There are nods to stop and search policies, the Prevent programme, and police surveillance of young Muslim men. *Antigone* is a youth leader whose club has closed because of government funding cuts. A general election takes place during a period of widespread economic uncertainty, when voters

are confronting the rising cost of living.

Ellams' own distressing encounters with Home Office policies sharpened his portrayal of an environment where politicians feel it is electorally advantageous to ramp up hostile rhetoric.

As he prepared for the opening of his 2019 adaptation of Chekhov's *Three Sisters* at the National Theatre, he was dealing with the fallout from a Home Office decision to refuse his naturalisation application. Ellams arrived in London in 1996 as a 12-year-old and only finally received British citizenship a few months ago, 26 years after his first arrival.

"I've survived quite a few home secretaries," he says. "Is anger the right word? One can't be angry for 26 years; my anger burned up long ago. It's more frustration, a feeling of solidarity with other immigrants who are victims of an office that is not fit for purpose."

During the final stages of his protracted difficulties with the Home Office, he had already been elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, received critical acclaim for his 2017 play *Barber Shop Chronicles*, and two of his plays were options on the GCSE syllabus.

"There was a cognitive dissonance - none of this meant anything. I felt like just another number on a file somewhere in the system, being processed by overworked civil servants with quotas to fill, people who aren't given the space to be human."

Ellams is not particularly moved by the diversity of Liz Truss's cabinet, unveiled during this week's rehearsals. "Maybe on some level I'm happy that these people are in power because it means that young children of colour broaden their aspirations and see these are the roles they can play in society," he says - but adds that he is withholding judgment until their political plans are revealed.

"Is there any hope that their policies might make life easier for refugees or immigrants to be accepted? With these new politicians, I don't really care what they look like - I want to see their characters, their policies. It reminds me of the famous quote by Martin Luther King: people should not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character."

Theatre review Wilde's genteel wit given playful kick by all-black cast

The Importance of Being Earnest

Leeds Playhouse

★★★★☆

Mark Fisher

On the way into the theatre there is a pop-up display of Victorian photographic portraits. The sitters are stiff in that slow shutter-speed

way, holding their gaze in their top hats, frock coats and crinolines. They are all people of colour and, as the curators have it, are a "missing chapter".

The *Black Chronicles* exhibition by the London gallery Autograph is a good introduction to this staging of Oscar Wilde's high-society comedy. The director Denzel Westley-Sanderson has taken a piece of traditionally white culture and claimed it as his own. Like the photographs, his

production for English Touring Theatre, Leeds Playhouse and Rose Theatre has all the familiar features of *The Importance of Being Earnest*: superficiality, snootiness and epigrammatic wit. It just happens to be performed by an all-black cast.

And a funny ensemble they are too. In a production commissioned after he won the RTST Sir Peter Hall director award, Westley-Sanderson pays attention to the formality of Wilde's genteel world of afternoon tea and cucumber sandwiches while giving it a playful kick. When the characters can't get what they want, they tend to chase each other on and off the stage, as if they have slipped into a slapstick farce. It is

as if the tweed suits and unyielding dresses cannot quite restrain the naughty children wearing them.

Only the imposing figure of Lady Bracknell can bring them to order. Played by Daniel Jacob, moonlighting from his job as the



▲ The actor Adele James plays a 'sexually forthright' Gwendolen

drag queen Vinegar Strokes, she is so wrapped up in purple fabric that Phoebe Campbell's Cecily can get nowhere near her face and has to make do with an air kiss. When she speaks, it is with a rasping authority.

The knockabout games and upfront attitude mean not all of Wilde's witticisms land as they would with more icy reserve. But there is compensation enough in the entertaining turns from Abiola Owokoniran as a camp and conversational Algernon, Justice Ritchie as an out-of-his-depth Jack and Adele James as a sexually forthright Gwendolen.

Until 17 September, then touring



◀ Hilary Mantel has collaborated with actor Ben Miles and his brother George on a picture book of *Wolf Hall*
PHOTOGRAPH: ANTONIO OLMOS/THE GUARDIAN

"I remember saying we have to do something with these. But I had no idea what, at the time, or that it would be such an odyssey, marching on at the same time as the books."

At that stage, with *The Mirror and the Light*, the third in the trilogy, still several years from completion, "there was a long, long way to go. And, for me, it was just the refreshment I needed. It was more than a supplement, it was something really essential that I needed to do," she says.

George Miles remembers a huge email arriving from Mantel. "It was astonishing, because it was the reason I'd been making the pictures expressed so clearly, and in a completely different form."

For Ben Miles, with whom Mantel co-adapted *The Mirror and the Light* for its run last year at the Gielgud theatre in London, the project was part of a continuing collaboration of nearly a decade's standing. The three of them began to visit places together, one of them often acting as a decoy to the helpful guides intent on showing them the official version.

George Miles describes a photograph that his brother took at Hampton Court, showing Mantel holding a broadsword in the middle of a demonstration of swordfighting as Ben sneaked off to take a picture of Anne Boleyn's room. "When you arrived at a place with your camera," Ben recalls, "you often felt like you were on a route around the place that obviously wasn't the designated route by the custodian of the place. And it was often one sort of long meandering digression. You never really knew what you were looking for."

Some immensely striking and suggestive images followed: a ghostly hound in Richmond Park, which brought to mind Cromwell's memories of dogs circling, scenting burned flesh; Boleyn's robes, laid out on a table like a shroud in Lambeth Palace; a curling tong lying plugged in on the floor during filming at Cromwell's mansion Austin Friars, in the City of London, looking for all the world like an instrument of torture. There it is again - the interplay between the past and the present day.

But the book is not an attempt on Mantel's part to draw parallels with contemporary life. She was, she says, persistently bemused when people suggested to her, for example, that Boris Johnson's former adviser Dominic Cummings resembles Cromwell ("I would think: no, not in any way").

"I think simply because I prize the long view so much. And that's why I won't make the parallels. I think that if you do, it turns real people into these kind of fantasy figures and unfortunately, they're not. They're real, present and dangerous."

Hilary Mantel Why author of *Wolf Hall* is worried about our love of historical drama

Alex Clark

Hilary Mantel is known for her outspoken views on politics and the royal family, and of course for her *Wolf Hall* trilogy, with its vivid recreation of the lives of Henry VIII, his wives and his consigliere Thomas Cromwell. So it is striking that when we meet, a few days before the death of the Queen, she is reluctant to be drawn on the subject of present day monarchy or our new prime minister.

"I'm against parallels, you know, and people are always trying to force me into making them," she says, firmly.

It is Mantel's ear for the interplay of past and present that makes her trilogy a landmark of early 21st-century fiction, though it is perhaps unsurprising that she is wary.

She made headlines a year ago, when she suggested the monarchy could be facing "the endgame",

and might not "outlast William"; and a lecture she gave in 2013, entitled *Royal Bodies*, in which she described the then Duchess of Cambridge as a "plastic princess", caused an outcry. Many people wilfully misread her criticism of what she explained as "the way we maltreat royal persons, making them one superhuman, and yet less than human".

Today, Mantel says she is alive to the danger of drawing shallow links with present-day politics and society.

"I am, as I think a lot of authors are, concerned about the speed at which we are consuming history now, the way that the past, the very recent past, is being made into a version and real-life people walking around have to live with their representatives and so on," she says, not naming names but nodding when I mention the TV series *The Crown* and Kenneth Branagh's imminent appearance as Boris Johnson in *This England*.

We are meeting to discuss *The Wolf Hall Picture Book*, on which she has collaborated with the actor Ben Miles, who played Thomas

Cromwell in the stage versions of her *Wolf Hall* trilogy, and his brother, the photographer George Miles.

The book's origins, the three of them explain, lie in a walk Ben and George took shortly after Ben had been cast as Cromwell in the summer of 2013, and combined his desire to construct a mental notebook of significant sites in his character's life with a revisiting of places central to the brothers' family history. The previous year, their mother had died, and they started out at their grandmother's flat in Surbiton, in south-west London, not far from Cromwell's childhood home, aiming to get to the Tower of London, on foot and by boat, in a single day.

The result is a collection of ambiguous, disquieting images in which the present rubs up against the past, accompanied by excerpts from the novels, some taken from deleted scenes that, thrillingly for Mantel fans, have never before been released.

Among other things, it is an interrogation of the way we interact with history; of the gaps in the

record, its elusive nature, and its unexpected resonances with our contemporary lives.

Mantel is preparing to leave Devon to set up home with her husband, Gerald McEwen, in Ireland this month, having previously expressed her shame at the British government's treatment of migrants and asylum seekers and her desire to become an Irish citizen. She has become a byword for a particular kind of intensely felt, brilliantly subtle exploration of the past.

Wolf Hall and *Bring Up the Bodies* were the only consecutive novels by a writer to have both won the Booker Prize and Mantel was closely involved in their transition to stages in Stratford and London and New York, also seeing them adapted for BBC television. She also published, in 2014, a collection of short stories, *The Assassination of Margaret Thatcher*.

But among Mantel's many remarkable attributes is her desire for constant reinvigoration.

When George Miles sent her a dummy book after he had collected a critical mass of photographs,

'I won't make parallels [with contemporary life]. If you do, it turns real people into fantasy figures, and they're not'

Hilary Mantel
Booker prize winner

Environment



Conservationists and some locals in Borrowdale tell **Ben Martynoga** that sheep farmers and the National Trust must make more space for wildlife

Unhappy valley Battle for Lake District's wildlife pits ecologists against farmers

The buggers are out of control and the trust just let them get away with it. It's not good enough." That's the verdict of Billy Bland, 75, a lifelong resident of Borrowdale. He's talking about the farmers – including friends, family and neighbours – who work the land here, and the valley's principal landlord, the National Trust, which owns eight of Borrowdale's 11 farms along with large tracts of woodland, wetland and fell.

With its rugged crags and stone wall-fringed pastures, many visitors think of Borrowdale as the Lake District's most picturesque valley. But Bland is concerned that the way this landscape has been farmed in recent decades is pushing its wildlife into severe decline.

Best known as one of the greatest ever long-distance fell runners, Bland has seen dramatic changes in farming. Farm machinery rolled on to the land, then got bigger. Synthetic fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides arrived. And, driven by the postwar imperative to grow more food and farm subsidies designed to maximise productivity,

sheep flocks swelled dramatically. These changes, Bland says, have taken a heavy toll.

As a boy, Bland remembers competing with his classmates to see who could pick, press and name the biggest variety of wildflowers from the hay meadows. Those are all but gone now. And so too, Bland says, are the clouds of yellowhammers, the curlews and the lapwings that used to frequent them. Natural England judges just 21.6% of the Lake District's sites of special scientific interest to be in a "favourable condition".

Farming v rewilding

On the one hand, the Lake District is a farmed landscape where food –



▲ One of the local Herdwick sheep, known for jumping drystone walls

mostly lamb, mutton and beef – is grown. The desire to protect these traditions was a primary driver of Unesco's decision to inscribe it as a world heritage site in 2017.

On the other hand, the area is a vital haven for wildlife. The lush habitats form one of England's largest and most crucial reservoirs for biodiversity and naturally cleaned drinking water. As we slide deeper into the climate crisis, this land has immense potential to draw down CO₂ and provide resilience against extreme weather events.

The challenge of balancing these sometimes contradictory demands applies across most of UK's upland areas, but it is particularly acute in the Lake District. William Wordsworth, 212 years ago, described it as "a sort of national property in which every man has a right and an interest". Today, more than 19 million tourists a year, bring their own views about how this part of Britain should look and function.

Who should decide how this land is best used in the future? Is Bland right that sheep farmers have been controlling the narrative for too long? Is it time to make more space for nature and step up efforts to

◀ *Borrowdale in the Lake District is both a farmed landscape and a vital haven for flora and fauna*

PHOTOGRAPHS: CHRISTOPHER THOMOND/
THE GUARDIAN

make the land do more to serve the public good?

These questions came to a head in 2016 at Thorneythwaite, a farm near the remote southern end of Borrowdale that was put up for sale by its private owners. The National Trust, keen to extend its Borrowdale landholding, opted to buy the 122-hectare (303-acre) plot of farmland but not the farmhouse, eliciting a furious reaction from sectors of the local community.

The charity was accused of severing the crucial link between people and place that, in the farmers' view, had allowed conservation and farming to operate hand in hand for generations. The Cumbria-born broadcaster and author Melvyn Bragg weighed in, accusing the trust of using "mafia-style" tactics. Rumours circulated that the trust's real aim was to get rid of the sheep and rewild the land.

In a public statement, the trust made clear Thorneythwaite would remain a "farmed landscape". To this day, it employs a local grazier to manage a flock of Herdwick sheep and a small herd of hardy, local breed cattle. The trust declined to be interviewed for this article but a spokesperson said the priority for all of its Borrowdale properties was achieving "mutual success for nature, climate and the farming traditions that sustain our cultural and natural heritage, and livelihoods". It's a fine ambition, but can all those jostling interests really be satisfied?

Grazing pressure

I invited the conservation ecologist Rob Dixon, founder of the habitat restoration consultancy Wild Lakeland, to walk the patchwork of different habitats that make up the Thorneythwaite landholding. Starting in the valley bottom, Dixon echoes Bland's point: the traditionally managed upland hay meadows are no more. Yet, with a few targeted interventions, he says, these dry stone walls could once again contain florally abundant, bird- and insect-rich habitats.

The trust spokesperson confirmed that meadow restoration was its ambition, and that work had started but was largely halted in 2020 by the pandemic.

Through a gate, we enter woodland. Borrowdale contains England's largest fragments of the sprawling temperate rainforest that once cloaked much of the UK's Atlantic seaboard. Thorneythwaite boasts veteran oaks, birches and rowans, multi-trunked alder, pollarded ash, holly and tangled hazel coppice, all lichen-crusting, fern-spangled and moss-carpeted.

But apart from a smattering of tiny seedlings, Dixon reckons no



new trees have been able to grow here for at least 70 years. The cows that have been grazed here are not the only culprits; Herdwick sheep are famous for their wall-hopping prowess, as are the resident red and roe deer.

A little higher up the valley's edge, we enter a waist-high sea of bracken, a coarse, fast-growing fern that few other plants can compete with. "This is where I sing the praises of cattle," says Dixon, gesturing to areas where cows have trampled the bracken flat. "Everything is raring to go here," he says, "but [under the current level of grazing pressure] it can't."

Passing through a stone wall on to the open hillside is, for a professional ecologist such as Dixon, like stepping into a scene of ecological devastation. There is scarcely a bird or flower and sheep have mown the grass down to a tight, monotone sward.

A rocky outcrop juts out of the thin turf, decorated with tufts of juniper, bilberry, rowan and ferns. For Dixon, it's a glimpse of the biodiverse riches that this terrain *could* support. "That's all we've got left. It's a sad sight," he says.

Further on, the ground runs away steeply to a racing stream or "beck". Dixon points to patches where, under intense sheep traffic, the thin soils, lacking deep root structures to bind them together, have started to erode into the water course below. Everything that runs off these fells will soon end up in the fast-flowing, canalised River Derwent in the valley below.

The intense grazing on this common is replicated over huge

expanses of the fells. Dixon has little time for anyone who might try to defend it. Using "cultural heritage as an excuse for this kind of farming is", he says, like dressing "a wolf in sheep's clothing".

Nor does he accept the argument that the global food security crisis should justify more sheep on this land. "Lamb doesn't feed the nation," he says. The 2021 National Food Strategy review places the Lake District within the least productive 20% of the UK's land. "The sheep aren't the profitable part of this farming system," says Dixon, "The profitable parts are BPS [basic payment scheme] and environmental stewardship payments."

The cost of degraded landscapes

The idea of restoring the ecology of the fells may be becoming easier to justify in hard-nosed economic terms. In December 2015, Storm Desmond subjected Cumbria to 300-plus millimetres of rain in a 24-hour period. Water, soil and rock cascaded off the fells, stone bridges were swept away and towns were paralysed by floods. The storm then crossed the North Sea, picking up water and power, before dumping almost twice as much rainwater on to south-west Norway.

According to preliminary analysis by Duncan Halley, at the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, the storm caused an estimated €833.6m (£723m) of damage in the UK, compared with €31.8m in Norway.

Halley thinks this is because the hills of southern Norway have undergone dramatic natural forest regeneration in recent decades, vastly improving the landscape's ability to absorb and hold water.

The National Trust says it is restoring peat bogs - which have massive potential to soak up water and carbon - at several nearby sites. Plans are also under way to renaturalise and therefore slow the flow of water in several sections of the Derwent and its catchment.

Dixon is clear that wholesale banishment of livestock farming from this landscape is not the answer. If people just step back and let nature reassert its grip, much of this land, he says, "could end just being covered in very dense bracken for a very long time".

Instead, using livestock in ways

that "replicate wild processes" can help habitat recovery. There are signs that "land-sharing" - farming that balances productivity with habitat restoration - is being adopted by some of the Lake District's farms.

But it can only be part of the answer in places such as Borrowdale. A mile or so downstream of Thorneythwaite is another fragment of primeval forest called Johnny Wood.

Guy Shrubsole, author of the forthcoming book *Lost Rainforests of Britain* reports an alarming absence of successful regeneration there. Shrubsole is sympathetic to the National Trust, which he thinks is too often "attacked on all sides". Nevertheless, "I hope they have the courage of their convictions and remember that their mission is as much about conserving natural beauty as it is about cultural heritage," he says.

"I want to see them doing all they can, not only to protect what they've got," he continues, "but to help [Borrowdale's woods] return to their past grandeur." For Shrubsole, that means establishing livestock-free buffer zones and corridors that protect and re-connect the valley's precious relic woodlands.

This has long been a dream shared by Maurice Pankhurst, who retired last year after working for 24 years as the National Trust's woodland ranger for the north. In 1999, he worked with local farmer Will Cockbain to create a sheep-free corridor around Falcon Crag, which links the woods at Ashness Bridge with Great Wood at the northern end of Borrowdale.

After Pankhurst hatched the idea for rewilding Falcon Crag, he knocked on Cockbain's door and asked the farmer what he'd say if the National Trust connected him with a modest (by today's standards) environmental stewardship payment for taking his sheep off the fell. As Pankhurst tells it, Cockbain's response was instant: "I'd shake your fucken hand!"

Now, 23 years on, Falcon Crag is a thriving patchwork of scrub and regenerating woodland. Pankhurst thinks the trust should push forward with more projects of this kind, but suspects one obstacle is the Lake District's world heritage status, which both imposes additional bureaucracy and emboldens the more change-resistant sectors of the local farming community. Next month, a strongly anti-rewilding motion is due to be voted on at the National Trust's AGM.

Back on the fell above Thorneythwaite, Dixon surveys the damaged yet undeniably beautiful tapestry of pasture, wood, wetland, heath and scree that forms the Borrowdale valley: "[There is] a massive, massive opportunity to do something on an epic scale here," he says, "Instead it's just lying waiting to happen."

Quiz by Phoebe Weston

Environment

Test your knowledge

1 Scientists have completed the most in-depth genetic analysis of the whipworm, one of the oldest human parasites. Where did they find their sample?

- A 2,500-year-old Viking faeces in Denmark
- B Fox poo found in south London
- C In the latrine of Ernest Shackleton's Antarctic shipwreck

2 England has had its joint hottest summer on record, according to provisional figures from the Met Office. What was the average temperature for June, July and August?

- A 17C
- B 22C
- C 27C

3 Scientists have discovered the remains of Africa's oldest dinosaur in Zimbabwe. How many years ago was it alive?

- A 130 million
- B 230 million
- C 330 million

4 The corn earworm is among the most common farm pests in the US. New research has shown it is expanding northwards. Why?

- A Seasonal winds have changed direction so its moths are being blown north
- B Humans are releasing them to destroy their competitors' harvests
- C Winter soils are becoming more habitable as the climate warms

5 A vegetarian restaurant in Bristol called the Canteen has added what to its menu?

- A Mealworms
- B Carbon emissions for each meal
- C Llama milk



Moving north: the corn earworm



◀ *The fell runner Billy Bland, a lifelong Borrowdale resident, says farming practices have pushed the valley's wildlife into decline*

You can't put
a price on curiosity.
But you can get
a 43% discount.



While the Guardian and Observer continue to bring you world-defining moments from culture, politics, sport and more – sparks of inspiration won't cost you the earth. **Subscribers to our award-winning newspapers and magazines can save up to 43% off the cover price.**



Subscribe today at
theguardian.com/paper-subscribe

Limited time offer				
Package	Newsstand price per month	Subscription rate	Limited time offer price	Saving
Every day	£84.50	£55.99	£48.15	43%
Six day	£69.33	£47.99	£43.19	37%
Weekend	£30.33	£22.99	£20.69	31%
Saturday	£15.17	£12.99	£11.69	22%
Sunday	£15.17	£12.99	£11.69	22%

Prices above are monthly. Savings calculated are savings made per month against the retail price.

The Guardian | TheObserver

Open to UK mainland and NI residents aged 18+. Offer ends 9 October 2022. The savings calculation is based upon the saving made per month against the retail price of all products included in the subscription package. The Guardian and Observer reserve the right to end this offer at any time. Details correct at the time of printing. For full subscription terms and conditions visit theguardian.com/subscription/terms.

Bug-tasting menu
Brooklyn chef on an
edible insect mission

Page 45

Big in Japan
Marxist climate crisis
book a bestseller

Page 47



41

World



◀ Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Latvia's president, Egils Levits, unveil a plaque in Kyiv dedicated to politicians who have backed Ukraine

territories" and was able to use the weapons supplied by western countries. "There will be no freezing of the conflict," Podolyak wrote on Twitter.

Top US officials expressed approval of the Ukrainian advance. "We see Ukraine making real, demonstrable progress in a deliberate way," said the secretary of state, Antony Blinken, speaking at Nato headquarters in Brussels yesterday, a day after he made a surprise visit to Kyiv.

Blinken cautioned against over-optimism, however, and warned that the fighting was likely to drag on. "There are a huge number of Russian forces that are in Ukraine, and unfortunately, tragically, horrifically, President Putin has demonstrated that he will throw a lot of people into this at huge cost to Russia," he said.

William Burns, the director of the CIA, said Putin had underestimated Ukrainian resolve and that of the international community.

"Putin's bet right now is that he is going to be tougher than the Ukrainians, the Europeans, the Americans ... I believe, and my colleagues at CIA believe, that Putin is as wrong about that bet as he was profoundly wrong in his assumptions going back to last February about Ukrainian will to resist," Burns said in Washington, in comments reported by the New York Times.

"Not only has the weakness of the Russian military been exposed ... but there is going to be long-term damage done to the Russian economy and to generations of Russians," he said.

Putin, speaking earlier this week, claimed Russia had "lost nothing" over the six months of war in Ukraine, but there has been alarm among Russian nationalists over Ukraine's military successes this week.

Some Russian military commentators criticised their army for not giving ample warning to residents of Balakliia that they would withdraw, leaving their local accomplices to face the wrath of Ukrainian authorities.

Iryna Vereshchuk, Ukraine's minister for the temporarily occupied territories, announced yesterday that Kyiv would create an agency for the de-occupied territories to coordinate different branches of the state and government in the regions.

She said there had been an increase of calls to a government hotline for people in the territories who wanted to leave, but there were no official humanitarian corridors agreed with Russia. "We have written to Russia to open humanitarian corridors but received a refusal, so we are asking the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency], the UN and the International Committee of the Red Cross to force Russia to open humanitarian corridors," Vereshchuk said.

At present, there are only a few crossing points for the millions of civilians living in the occupied areas. People wait for days in queues, often surrounded by shelling.

Russia sends more troops to Kharkiv region to quell advances by Ukrainian forces

Isobel Koshiw Kyiv
Shaun Walker

Moscow is sending columns of military reinforcements to Ukraine's Kharkiv region, Russian media reported, after the first major Ukrainian counterattack since spring made significant territorial gains this week.

Ukrainian troops have pushed Russian forces out of a number of settlements in the Kharkiv region that Moscow had occupied since the first days of its invasion, and yesterday Ukraine's army appeared to be continuing its speedy advance.

A Russian-installed official in the occupied part of the region admitted Moscow's troops were on the back foot. "The very fact of a breach of our

defences is already a substantial victory for the Ukrainian armed forces," Vitaly Ganchev told state television.

Ganchev said "fierce battles" were under way near the town of Balakliia, retaken by Ukraine on Thursday. "We do not control Balakliia. Attempts are being made to dislodge the Ukrainian forces, but there are fierce battles and our troops are being held back on the approaches," he said.

For weeks, Ukrainian officials had telegraphed plans for a counterattack in the southern Kherson region, but instead the main focus of this week's offensive has been Kharkiv in the north-east, apparently taking the Russians by surprise.

Moscow responded yesterday by firing rockets into the centre of the city, according to local officials,

The battle for Kharkiv region



Source: the Institute for the Study of War with AEI's Critical Threats Project. *Areas where ISW assesses Russian forces have operated in or launched attacks against but do not control

who said at least 10 people, including three children, were wounded in an attack that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's chief of staff condemned as revenge for Ukrainian success on the battlefield.

"For every success of Ukraine's armed forces, for every victory, Russians ... answer with strikes on innocent people," Andriy Yermak wrote on Telegram, confirming that children were among the wounded.

The next major Ukrainian target is likely to be the city of Kupiansk. On Thursday, Russian occupation authorities said they planned to evacuate women and children from Kupiansk, citing Ukrainian artillery strikes on the town.

A photograph shared on social media yesterday appeared to show

Ukrainian forces at one of the entrances to the city, posing with a Ukrainian flag. The photograph could not be immediately verified.

The Institute for the Study of War, a US-based thinktank, said Ukrainian forces could retake the city over the next three days. Taking the city would sever communication links between occupied areas and "hinder Russian efforts to support offensive and defence operations", it said.

Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address on Thursday that Ukrainian forces had recaptured more than 1,000 sq km (385 sq miles) of territory since the beginning of September.

Zelenskyy's adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said the counteroffensive showed Ukraine had "proved the capability of de-occupying its

PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEY DOLZHENKO/EPA

European energy ministers clash over price cap on Russian gas

Jennifer Rankin
Brussels

EU energy ministers have clashed over a plan to put a price cap on Russian gas, casting doubt on whether the measure will go ahead.

Speaking after emergency talks in Brussels in response to surging gas and electricity prices, the EU's energy commissioner, Kadri Simson, said "nothing is decided" on proposals to curb Russia's income.

Vladimir Putin has dismissed the idea as "stupid" and threatened to make Europe "freeze" this winter if a cap is agreed. Russia has already slashed supplies to Europe and said it will not resume flows at previous volumes until the EU lifts sanctions. Russian supply makes up only 9% of EU gas imports, down from 40% before the invasion of Ukraine.

Simson defended the planned cap. "The context of this measure is that Russia is gaining huge profits by manipulating and limiting, artificially, supply to drive up prices. And the cap would reduce these profits," she told reporters yesterday.

The 27 ministers began the meeting by holding a minute's silence to mark the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

There was more consensus over a proposal to cap the high price of EU-produced electricity from renewable sources, such as wind, solar and nuclear, and to reduce energy consumption across the region. The European Commission favours a mandatory 5% cut in electricity use during peak hours, according to a leaked paper seen by the Guardian.

The talks set the stage for a period of intense negotiations, with the president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, expected to set out legal proposals on the EU's energy crisis response next Wednesday.

Countries that import large volumes of gas from Russia, including Hungary, Slovakia and Austria, have spoken out against the cap proposal because they fear the Kremlin would halt all gas flows, plunging their countries into recession.

"If price restrictions were to be

imposed exclusively on Russian gas, that would evidently lead to an immediate cut-off in Russian gas supplies," said Hungary's foreign minister, Péter Szijjártó, who was attending the meeting. "It does not take a Nobel prize to recognise that."

About a dozen countries, including France and Poland, say the price cap should apply to all imported gas, including liquefied natural gas. The EU energy commissioner voiced doubts about that approach, saying that a general price cap "could present a security of supply challenge".

Since the invasion of Ukraine, the EU has been scrambling to secure supplies shipped in from other countries, such as Qatar, Norway and the US, but faces stiff competition from Asia. "Right now it is important that we can replace decreasing Russian volumes with alternative suppliers," Simson said.

Only the Baltic states, which have long argued for sanctions on Russian gas, gave full-throated support to the plan. Riina Sikkut, Estonia's minister for economic affairs and infrastructure, urged other members to ignore Putin's threats, saying: "It is blackmail, it is war that is waged outside Ukraine ... We have to have the political will to make Ukraine win."

Ministers were more aligned on dealing with a distortion in the energy market, which has seen renewable and nuclear energy companies reaping huge profits because the price of all electricity is pegged to the price of wholesale gas. The proposals are for a cap on power from wind, solar and nuclear, and the redistribution of revenues to vulnerable consumers and businesses.

Ministers also backed a plan to reduce demand for electricity, although the Czech industry minister, Josef Síkela, who chaired the meeting, indicated that member states wanted voluntary targets, rather than a legally binding obligation. "There is no time to wait, and we have to be swift and united," he said.

Ireland's environment minister, Eamon Ryan, insisted that action must be taken within weeks. This autumn, "when we're really going to see the high prices having effect, that's when we need the support, that's when we need to get some of that money," he told reporters.

"EU energy ministers have agreed the EU needs a comprehensive plan to face the ongoing energy crisis," said Simone Tagliapietra, a senior energy expert at the Bruegel thinktank. "As all these measures are extraordinarily complex to be engineered, it will take a great political commitment by member states to quickly adopt them in the coming weeks."

If price restrictions were imposed on Russia, it would lead to an immediate cut-off in supplies'

Péter Szijjártó
Hungary's foreign minister



Cold war Survivors in ravaged towns outside Kyiv dread arrival of winter

Larisa Kalik and Nick Ames
Borodianka

It is too cold in the garage, Vadim sleeps in his old car. He lived on the third floor of an apartment block by Borodianka's central street but it was destroyed by Russian Grad missiles in March and there is barely anything here for him now, beyond the section of basement he can call his own. Every day he sifts through the rubble, picking out fragments of his family's belongings. It keeps him busy, he says.

The walk out of town to his garage is long and dispiriting but Vadim has few options. He does not want to live in the temporary accommodation for those bombed out of their homes. Like the others who have stayed, he faces a quandary that may quickly prove unbearable. If the warmer months were uncomfortable but tolerable, the winter will bring challenges that pose another real threat to life. "I have no idea what to do next,"

says the 65-year-old, who drove ambulances to and from a military hospital in Kyiv at the start of the invasion. "I must have prayed badly to God. I have nothing left."

There is no access to heating or running water in Vadim's garage, and compensation from the local authorities will not cover arrangements of his own. He has received two €50 (£43) payments, but that will not see him through freezing temperatures from November onwards, and there is little reassurance forthcoming.

Any hope of seeing quick restoration work on his burnt-out building seems far fetched, and

the anguish is collective. On the walls of a ruined nine-storey block further along the street, a simple message is daubed in Ukrainian and English: "We want to live here."

It is a common refrain in the towns and villages around Kyiv, which saw many of the grimmest atrocities known to have taken place since February. While some cannot bear to leave, others simply do not have the money to live in short-term housing – for which demand outstrips supply, in any case. In the absence of quick solutions, the ability to source firewood is going to be critical.

For Inna, who lives eight miles away in the village of Potashnya, there is no more important issue. She lived with her disabled husband in a house that was razed to the ground while the pair were, to their fortune, visiting her mother nearby. Now they reside in the relatively intact property of a neighbouring family who left for Germany, but the draught whistling through windows covered only by cling film will become more bitter by the week.



▲ A bullet-scarred bust of the poet Taras Shevchenko in Borodianka



◀ A father and his daughter contemplate a memorial wall in Kyiv to Ukrainians who have died in the war with Russia
PHOTOGRAPH: EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Inna is on the breadline: she is yet to receive compensation for the destruction of her home because the documents that provided proof of ownership were, like everything else, reduced to ashes. That may arrive in time, but for now almost every penny is spent on stockpiling firewood with which to cook and keep warm. She recently spent her savings on a month's worth, but there will be no money for any more. It sits outside the building in a pile that will quickly diminish.

"Every brick in my house was put there by my own hands: we built everything ourselves," she says. "Now it's all gone, and I am nobody here." Unless assistance is forthcoming, Inna will use blankets and wooden boards to keep out the chill, praying it will be enough.

Life has dealt a better hand to the talkative and upbeat Olga, who sits eating an ice-cream outside one of the few cafes back up and running in Borodianka. The concerns, though, are similar. With financial support from a daughter who works in Germany, she was able to buy €250 of firewood and hopes that may see her through the winter. Nonetheless, she will move to her smaller property in the countryside because warming the larger house in which she currently resides would be a stretch.

The winter does not faze Olga. In comparison to the terror wreaked by Russian soldiers in her town, she

says, it feels like nothing. But she shares some of Vadim's discomfort: when the war began she owned an apartment nearby and, after its destruction she received scant recompense and no indication that it would be rebuilt. The Guardian made repeated attempts to contact the local authorities but nobody was available for comment.

Unsafe housing is not the only problem in Borodianka that will be compounded by the falling temperatures. A lack of employment spells genuine danger.

Serhiy recently turned 38 and, working for a construction firm in Kyiv, had a well-paid career until the invasion. He is now out of work and living alone, having helped his wife and daughter evacuate to Poland. His house is in relatively good condition, but paying for its upkeep is another matter. Many people will not be able to afford gas heating this winter, he thinks; even firewood will be for the lucky ones. "At the beginning of April we were promised the state and charitable organisations would restore everything by winter and the whole world would help us," he says. "But nothing like this happened."

Like Serhiy, Vadim reflects on the horrifying uncertainty the Russians have created. "I will not be able to forgive them," he says. "I worked for 30 years and invested everything in my family and home. Now it has all gone."



▲ Vladimir Putin with the leaders of Mongolia, left, and Myanmar's military junta at an Asian economic forum in Vladivostok
PHOTOGRAPH: SERGEI BOBYLEV/AP

'A leader of the world'

South-east Asia welcomes Putin's pivot from west

Rebecca Ratcliffe
Bangkok

The head of Myanmar's military junta beamed with joy as he shook hands with Vladimir Putin this week. "We would call you not just the leader of Russia but a leader of the world, because you control and organise stability around the whole world," Min Aung Hlaing said.

His remarks came as Putin claimed in a defiant speech that European efforts to isolate Russia would fail: instead, he would pivot to Asia. Myanmar's military, which has also faced sanctions from western countries in the aftermath of last year's coup, has been especially receptive to such offers of friendship.

Russian aircraft have given Myanmar's military an "asymmetrical advantage" as it struggles to control resistance to its rule, says Hunter Marston, a researcher and analyst at the Australian National University in Canberra. He says this was "one of the only things allowing them to keep [back] the PDFs [people's defence forces, formed in opposition to the coup]. Otherwise they would be suffering more losses than they already are."

Airstrikes have bombarded populated areas, according to the UN's human rights office.

Myanmar plans to import Russian gas and fuel and has signed a roadmap for cooperation on nuclear energy with the Russian state-owned nuclear corporation, Rosatom. Energy cooperation may deepen further, says Marston. "Russia has lost some of its drilling sites offshore in Vietnam due to Chinese pressure," he says, adding that it is possible Moscow may look to Myanmar for exploration after firms such as Total have withdrawn from the country.

In south-east Asia, responses to Russia's war in Ukraine vary, but it is largely seen as a regional conflict in Europe, says Frederick Kliem, a research fellow and lecturer at the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore.

"Countries in south-east Asia, and actually many countries around the world, are not buying into the notion that this is a sea change in international relations, and that Russia is the enemy," Kliem says. "They say, look, if there is cheap oil and cheap gas and good trade deals to be made with Russia at this point in time then of course we're going to do it, and who are you to tell us not to?"

Many point out that Russia does not have a monopoly on breaching international law, he adds.

In the region, only Singapore has imposed sanctions on Russia - a decision possibly driven by its view that international law supports smaller states and that it should take a consistent stance in support of this, says Chong Ja Ian, an associate professor of political science at the National University of Singapore.

Singapore's position as a financial hub and a belief that it



▲ Many Asian countries are happy to secure cheaper Russian oil and gas

'The countries in south-east Asia don't buy into the notion that this is a sea change and Russia is the enemy'

Frederick Kliem
Lecturer in Singapore

needs to be particularly careful about secondary sanctions may also have been a factor, he adds.

Arms sales have been Russia's strongest suit in the region, says Kliem, but there is now also a focus on energy as countries eye cheaper deals to protect consumers. Indonesia's state-owned oil and gas company Pertamina is in talks to purchase crude oil from Russia at below the market rate.

Countries in south-east Asia are worried about increasing energy and food prices, Chong says. "These are areas that Russia may be able to provide some assistance, although these governments are likely to be careful about secondary sanctions too. The fact that Russian financial organisations are restricted from using the Swift system may complicate transactions with Russia, however."

Such barriers have affected trade. Tâm Sáng Huỳnh, a lecturer at Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities, says that despite talk of Russia seeking enhanced ties with Vietnam, there have been no significant developments. "Vietnam's exports to Russia have been hampered by the ongoing war, with logistics and payments being impacted," he says.

Meanwhile, US companies have shifted production to Vietnam, with Apple suppliers in talks to set up a production line in the country for the first time, he adds. Vietnam has sought to avoid taking sides on the war, in an attempt to balance relations with both powers.

It has relied heavily on Russia for crude oil and gas, and military equipment, but is seeking to diversify on the latter, Huỳnh says.

In a region dominated by competition between China and the US, Russia is seen by some as a "helpful balancer", says Kliem, even if its influence is smaller. Trade deals with Russia may be welcomed by leaders conscious that Moscow, unlike others, will not impose sanctions in response to concerns over authoritarianism or other rights issues.

Thailand announced in May that it would boost bilateral trade with Russia, with the aim of reaching \$10bn a year, as Moscow looks to buy more Thai rice, fruit, cars and car parts, as well as investing in technology. Thais have been invited to invest in Russia's food industry, it was reported.

But these deals are not at all comparable with Russia's losses elsewhere, says Kliem. He says it is likely that it is "diplomatic recognition" that Putin is seeking, rather than compensating for economic losses.

Poland's ruling party counts on anti-EU stance to boost votes

Patrick Wintour
Karpacz

Leaders of Poland's ruling Law and Justice party appear intent on stoking an anti-EU and anti-German climate as it faces a battle in next year's parliamentary elections.

Speaking at an economic forum in Karpacz this week, Jarosław Kaczyński, the chair of Law and Justice (PiS) and Poland's de facto leader, went further than before in denouncing the EU as a culturally alien project led by a neo-imperialist Germany. It was, he said, "the sacred duty" of Polish politicians to oppose it.

He said Poland had joined the EU out of necessity, but implied that the

case for remaining inside the bloc lay in the balance. "In the EU there is a rule: who is stronger is better. And because Germany is strongest, the old German concept - a concept that can be called neo-imperial - holds sway. Olaf Scholz wants to build a super-state of world importance under German leadership."

Kaczyński does not hold a government role but is seen as a driving force behind the conservative-national governing party, whose crackdown on judicial independence has drawn Poland into a row with Brussels.

Speaking to a packed room alongside his closest intellectual advisers, Kaczyński continually described the EU as a culturally alien project without specifying in what way.

The ferocity of the alienation from the EU project - synonymous with Germany - was on daily display at the economic forum, described as the Davos of central and eastern Europe.

Many of the sessions on the overpowering march of liberal values rejected globalism. But with the PiS polling at 35%, inflation at 16% and trust ratings in the prime minister, Mateusz Morawiecki, at a new low, the party does not seem confident its perceptiveness in warning about the threat posed by Vladimir Putin's Russia will reap electoral rewards.

Kaczyński also appears to be testing out criticism of transgender people as another possible strategy to boost turnout among rural and older voters, the bedrock of his 2019 win.

Nevertheless, the focus of PiS's strategy for now is a ferocious attack on Germany and, specifically, a demand that Germany pay reparations for the devastation wreaked on Poland during the second world war. A three-volume study by a parliamentary body, four years in the making, puts the bill at €1.3tn (£1.15tn), three times Germany's annual state budget.

Scholz says the topic is closed and an understanding on the issues was reached in August 1953.

But Morawiecki has written a piece in the UK's Spectator magazine spelling out the crimes "that can never be fully forgiven and can never be forgotten". Polish diplomats say a formal note demanding compensation will be sent to Berlin shortly.

The demand for compensation risks bleeding into other contemporary disputes, including increasing German weapons deliveries to Ukraine, soaring energy prices, and the refusal of the EU to give €35bn in pandemic funds to Warsaw until Poland meets a series of rule-of-law "milestones".



▲ Kim Jong-un said there could be no bargaining over his nuclear weapons

North Korea legislates to use nuclear option first if it fears attack

Agencies

North Korea has passed a law enshrining the right to "automatically" use pre-emptive nuclear strikes to protect itself, a move its leader, Kim Jong-un, says makes its nuclear status "irreversible" and bars denuclearisation talks, according to state media.

The decision comes as observers say North Korea appears to be preparing to resume nuclear testing for the first time since 2017, after historic summits with the then US president Donald Trump and other world leaders in 2018 failed to persuade Kim to abandon his weapons development.

The rubber-stamp parliament, the Supreme People's Assembly, passed the legislation on Thursday to replace a 2013 law on the country's nuclear status, the state news agency KCNA reported yesterday.

"The utmost significance of legislating nuclear weapons policy is to draw an irretrievable line so that there can be no bargaining over our nuclear weapons," Kim told the assembly, adding that he would never surrender the weapons even if the country faced 100 years of sanctions.

The 2013 law stipulated that North Korea could use nuclear weapons to repel attack from a hostile nuclear state and make retaliatory strikes. The new law allows pre-emptive nuclear strikes if an imminent attack by weapons of mass destruction or against "strategic targets", including its leadership, is detected.

That is an apparent reference to South Korea's "kill chain" strategy, which calls for pre-emptively striking North Korea's nuclear infrastructure and command system if an imminent attack is suspected.

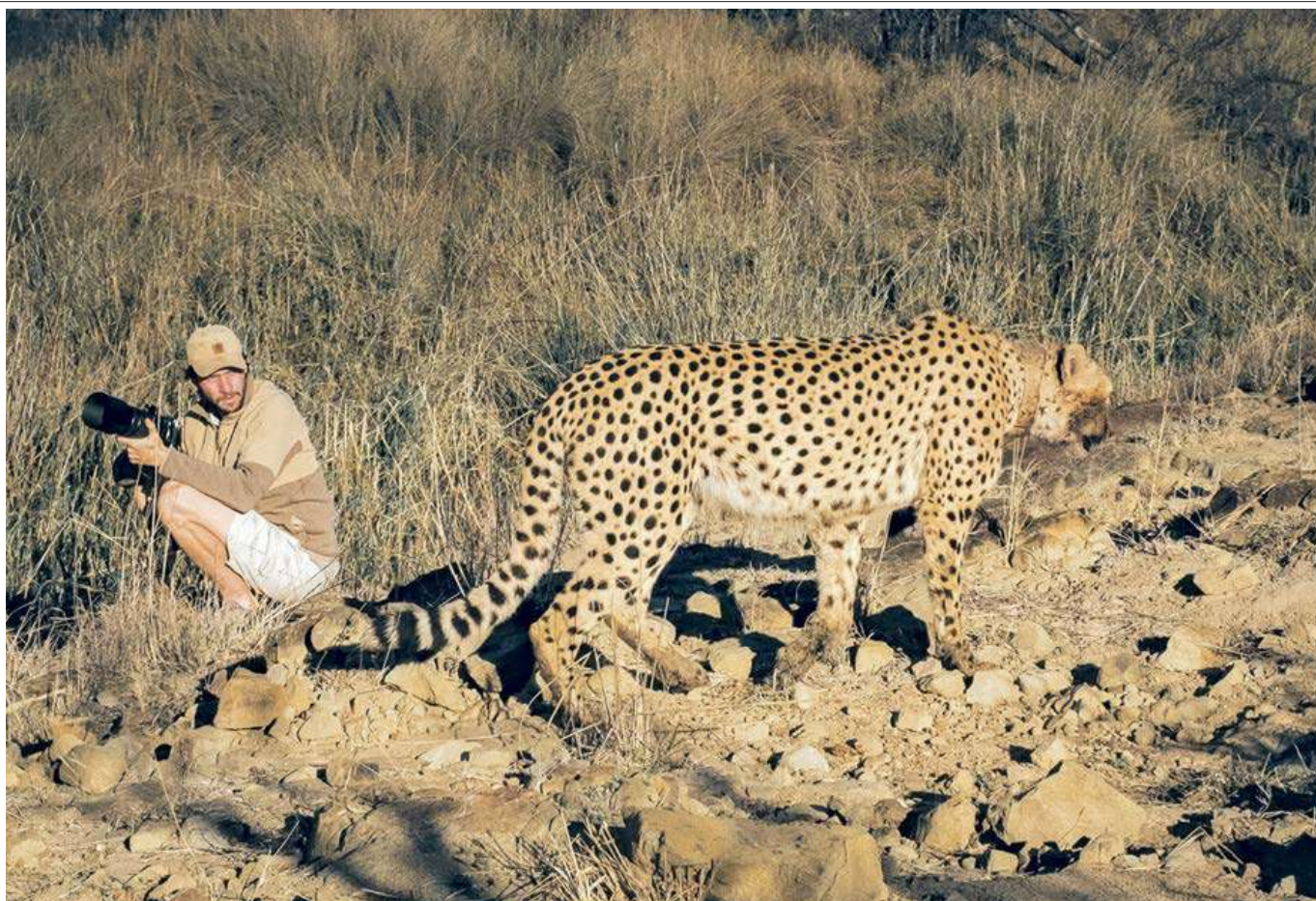
Kim cited kill chain, which is part of a three-pronged military strategy being boosted under the new South Korean president, Yoon Suk-yeol, as a sign that the situation was deteriorating and that Pyongyang must prepare for long-term tensions.

The law also banned sharing of nuclear arms or technology with other countries, and was aimed at reducing the danger of a nuclear war by preventing miscalculations among nuclear weapons states and misuse of nuclear weapons, KCNA reported.



Close encounter

A cheetah passes within touching distance of a wildlife photographer at work in Zimbabwe. Only about 7,000 cheetahs remain in the wild worldwide.



PHOTOGRAPH:
SAM TURLEY/
MEDIA DRUM IMAGES

Pakistan owed 'massive' support for flood recovery, says UN chief

Associated Press
Islamabad

The UN secretary-general, António Guterres, has said the world owes impoverished Pakistan "massive" help in recovering from the summer's devastating floods because the country bears less blame than many other nations for the climate crisis.

Months of heavy monsoon rains and flooding have killed 1,391 people and affected 33 million while half a million people have become

homeless. Planeloads of aid from the US, the United Arab Emirates and other countries have begun arriving, but Guterres said there was more to be done to help a country which contributed less than 1% of global emissions. "We are heading into a disaster," Guterres said. "We have waged war on nature and nature is tracking back and striking back in a devastating way. Today in Pakistan, tomorrow in any of your countries."

The UN chief's trip comes less than two weeks after Guterres appealed for \$160m (£138m) in emergency funding

to help those affected by the monsoon rains and floods.

"I appeal for massive support from the international community as Pakistan responds to this climate catastrophe," he said shortly after landing in Pakistan.

He said other nations contributing to climate change were obligated to reduce emissions and help Pakistan. "Pakistan has not contributed in a meaningful way to climate change, the level of emissions in this country is relatively low," he said. "But

Pakistan is one of the countries most dramatically impacted ... Even today, emissions are rising as people die in floods and famines. This is insanity. This is collective suicide."

He added: "From Pakistan, I am issuing a global appeal: Stop the madness; end the war with nature; invest in renewable energy now."

So far, UN agencies and several countries have sent nearly 60 plane-loads of aid, and authorities say the UAE has been one of the most generous contributors.

The first planeload arrived from the US yesterday, which Washington said was part of an upcoming \$30m in assistance.

Guterres said that by some estimates Pakistan needed about \$30bn to recover from the floods.

\$30bn

Estimate for total funding needed for flood recovery in Pakistan quoted by António Guterres

Chef's special Mission to show eating bugs is good for planet and palate

Whitney Bauck

Chef Joseph Yoon is used to negative reactions to his creations: he's watched a child cry when she realised the pumpkin cake in her mouth was made with cricket powder, seen an adult spit out his bug-laden bite of food and endured racist online comments for suggesting that scorpions or mealworms are worth eating.

None of it fazes Yoon. In contrast, if anything it reaffirms the importance of his work destigmatising entomophagy. As the founder of Brooklyn Bugs, Yoon is on a mission to prove that eating bugs is good for the planet – and the palate.

Yoon gives presentations everywhere from primary schools to Harvard University, partners with institutions such as the Smithsonian and Nasa on sustainable food initiatives and occasionally cooks for journalists, to raise awareness about the planetary benefits and culinary joys of eating bugs.

"I like to share the sense of hope and optimism and to be able to capture people's imagination through cooking insects," Yoon said from his table in Queens, New York, over a bite of stir-fried cicadas. "The question is: how do we start changing the perception from insects as pests to something that's sustainably farmed, nutrient dense and that can add a tremendous amount of flavour to your food?"

Insect consumption has been highlighted by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization as an important tool in addressing food insecurity. Insect eating presents a compelling climate solution too – crickets, for example, can provide the same amount of protein as cows for less than 0.1% of the emissions.

"There are over 2 billion people in 80% of the world's nations that are already regularly consuming insects," said Yoon. But the yuck factor that persists in many places is what he is interested in changing.

"There are over 2,000 types of edible insects with wildly different flavour profiles, textures and functionality," Yoon said. "Take garlic, for comparison. Say someone was like, 'I love garlic, try a piece raw,' and you'd never had it before, you'd probably be like, 'This is really intense, I don't like this.' You have to learn to work with the ingredient, to roast it, to saute it ... We're just at the very tip of understanding how to truly work with insect protein."



'I like to share the hope and optimism and capture people's imagination through cooking insects'

Joseph Yoon
Chef and founder, Brooklyn Bugs

◀ Joseph Yoon serves up two dishes prepared in his home kitchen in New York using whole and powdered insects, above

PHOTOGRAPHS:
JUTHARAT
PINYODOONYACHET/
THE GUARDIAN

What's on the tasting menu Sun-dried scorpions with mealworm brownies for pudding

So where might the curious get started? And what do all these bugs taste like? Yoon and I sat down over a beautifully plated bug-tasting menu to talk through his go-to insect ingredients.

Crickets: a nutty flavour

Yoon served up a few varieties of his homemade kimchi that substitutes cricket powder for fish sauce, adding: "I've cooked easily over 100 unique dishes with crickets."

Available in whole and powdered form, crickets are given a savoury, "nutty" flavour by roasting. You can add the powder to smoothies, baked goods or hummus to increase the protein content, or use them to form a crunchy crust on fried foods.

Grasshoppers: a savoury snack

They have many flavour and texture similarities with crickets, though grasshoppers tend to be a bit meatier. He served them on a bed of delicately arranged avocado and mango, seasoned with lime, chillies and salt.

Ants: 'insect caviar'

Yoon sprinkled them as a garnish over soft-boiled quail eggs. Their formic acid content gives black ants a bright, citrusy tang, which is why he uses them in "virtually any application where I want a citrus flavour", whether that's a vinaigrette or a cocktail.

Manchurian scorpions: a shrimp-like taste

Despite being some of the more intimidating critters in Yoon's pantry – those stingers! – they have a rather familiar flavour. "These are brined in salt and sun-dried. They're arthropods just

like shrimp, so they have a baby-shrimp-esque quality," he said. He enjoys eating scorpions in a dashi stock that combines them with mushrooms and kombu.

Bamboo worms, weevils and wasps: creamy, coconutty, sweet

Bamboo worms are actually caterpillars. Yoon says they are so mild and creamy they can be eaten straight out of the bag.

Another creamy variety is the palm weevil, an invasive species that damages palm trees. Yoon served the coconutty critter toasted on a bed of roasted beets, with a cricket-powder-infused dressing and sprinkling of black ants. For a different kind of sweetness, look to Japanese wasps; in Japan, people sometimes add them to sake to infuse the alcohol.

Mopane worms: pungent and earthy

Popular in Botswana and Zimbabwe, mopane worms are the caterpillar form of the emperor moth, enjoyed in stews or maize porridges. For the western palate,

Yoon recommends using onions and garlic to balance their pungent flavour.

Cicadas: a meaty treat

The meaty cicadas Yoon served on a bed of rice are the most "buggy" item on the menu, with legs and wings intact, their flavour enhanced with chillies and garlic. Yoon also served some cicada kimchi.

Mealworms: nature's cheese puff

Eaten alone, mealworms have a cheesy flavour that makes them a nice pairing for fruit, Yoon said. He also pulled out brownies for dessert that contained mealworm powder and whole mealworms; they tasted like deliciously chocolatey brownies.

Yoon laughed. "That's very commonly the reaction when people try my food. They're like, 'Oh, that's just food. It's not this crazy thing.' And that's what I'm trying to help people appreciate, so they can integrate insects into things they already like to eat."

Whitney Bauck



▲ Cricket and vegetable curry makes for a protein-rich meal



PHOTOGRAPH:
MARIA MORATTI/GETTY

Star turn Brad Pitt joins Ana de Armas on the red carpet for the premiere of *Blonde* at the Venice film festival. De Armas plays Marilyn Monroe in the biopic, inspired by Joyce Carol Oates's book of the same name, and Pitt is one of the film's producers.

Tajikistan accused of forcing Afghan refugees back over the border

Ruchi Kumar and Hikmat Noori

Tajikistan is rounding up Afghan refugees and forcing them back across the border into Afghanistan, despite some having been granted asylum in other countries.

According to reports from Tajikistan's 10,000-strong Afghan refugee community, people have been picked up off the street and houses have been raided in a spate of recent round-ups of Afghan families who have been sheltering in the country since the Taliban seized power in August 2021.

The UN refugee agency UNHCR confirmed 80 Afghan refugees and asylum seekers had been deported from Tajikistan since 16 August.

The UNHCR has appealed to the Tajikistan authorities to stop the deportations. The motivation or policy is behind them is unclear: until a few weeks ago the Tajikistan government was cooperating with

the UNHCR to shelter and resettle Afghans fleeing the Taliban.

The UN documented a case on 23 August, involving "three children and their mother, [who] were returned to Afghanistan through the Panji Poyon border checkpoint in southern Tajikistan, despite UNHCR's interventions".

Afghans in Tajikistan said hundreds were being forced back over the border, many without identity documents.

"We are living with a lot of fear that we might be detained by the police and deported at any minute," said Samira*, a former security official who escaped Afghanistan after attempts on her life. For nearly a week her family, which is in the final stages of emigrating to Canada, has not dared leave their flat in a small town in northern Tajikistan.

The Tajikistan authorities were contacted for comment.

*Name changed to protect identity

a sky original

"Stylish and tense" – The Telegraph

MUNICH GAMES

Trust no one

sky

▼ People wear masks in central Tokyo, where inequalities have been magnified by the pandemic

PHOTOGRAPH: KYODO/NEWSCOM/AVALON



Beyond growth Marxist book on climate crisis hits home in Japan

Justin McCurry
Tokyo

The climate emergency will spiral out of control unless the world applies “emergency brakes” to capitalism and devises a “new way of living”, according to a Japanese academic whose book on Marxism and the environment has become a surprise bestseller.

The message from Kohei Saito, an associate professor at Tokyo University, is simple: capitalism’s demand for unlimited profits is destroying the planet and only degrowth can repair the damage

by slowing down social production and sharing wealth.

In practical terms, that means an end to mass production and the mass consumption of wasteful goods such as fast fashion. Capital in the Anthropocene also advocates decarbonisation through shorter working hours and prioritising essential, “labour intensive”, work such as caregiving.

Few would have expected Saito’s Japanese-language solution to the climate crisis to have much appeal outside leftwing academia and politics. Instead, the book – inspired by Karl Marx’s writings on the environment – has sold more than half a million copies since it was published in 2020.

As the world confronts more evidence of the effects of the climate emergency, rampant inflation and the energy crisis, Saito’s vision of a more sustainable, post-capitalist world will appear in an academic text to be published next year by Cambridge University Press, with an English translation of his bestseller to follow.

“It is broadly about what’s going on in the world ... about the climate crisis and what we should do about it,” Saito says in an interview with the Guardian. “I advocate for degrowth and going beyond capitalism.”

The mere mention of the word degrowth conjures negative images of wealthy societies plunged

into a dark age of declining living standards. The 35-year-old admits he thought a book drawing on strands of Marxism as a solution to modern-day ills would be a tough sell in Japan, where the same conservative party has dominated politics for the best part of 70 years.

But he needn’t have worried about using the language of radical change. As the world emerges from the pandemic, disillusionment with the economic status quo has given him a receptive audience.

Covid has magnified inequalities in advanced economies, and between the global north and south



▲ Kohei Saito’s idea for tackling the climate crisis has been a hit in Japan

– and the book struck a nerve with younger Japanese.

“Saito is telling a story that is easy to understand,” says Jun Shiota, a 31-year-old researcher who bought Capital in the Anthropocene soon after it was published. “He doesn’t say there are good and bad things about capitalism, or that it is possible to reform it ... he just says we have to get rid of the entire system.”

Saito agrees that growing inequality has given his writing immediacy. “Many people lost their jobs and homes and are relying on things like food banks, even in Japan. I find that shocking. And you have essential workers who are forced to work long hours in low-paid jobs. The marginalisation of essential workers is becoming a serious issue.”

The response to Covid-19 shows that rapid change is not only desirable, but possible, he says. “One thing that we have learned during the pandemic is that we can dramatically change our way of life overnight. We proved that working less was friendlier to the environment and gave people a better life. But now capitalism is trying to bring us back to a ‘normal’ way of life.”

Saito is sceptical of some widely accepted strategies for tackling the climate emergency, describing sustainable development goals [SDGs] as “the new opium of the masses” in reference to Marx’s view of religion.

“Buying eco bags and bottles without changing anything about the economic system ... SDGs mask the systemic problem and reduce everything to the responsibility of the individual, while obscuring the responsibility of corporations and politicians,” he says.

“I discovered how Marx was interested in sustainability and how non-capitalist and pre-capitalist societies are sustainable, because they are realising the stationary economy, they are not growth-driven.”

Saito has made Japan noticeably less squeamish about Marx’s ideas. Now he hopes his message will appeal to an English-language readership. “We face a very difficult situation: the pandemic, poverty, climate change, the war in Ukraine, inflation. If economic policies have been failing for 30 years, then why don’t we invent a new way of life? The desire for that is suddenly there.”

Indian and Chinese troops pull back from disputed border area

Helen Davidson and agencies

Indian and Chinese troops have begun to pull back from an area on the disputed Himalayan border, as peace talks between senior military officials continue.

The countries’ defence ministries confirmed troops were disengaging from the area of Gogra-Hot Springs. The withdrawal was according to a

consensus reached in July during the 16th and most recent round of talks between top commanders, both ministries said.

It marks the second big disengagement since August 2021, when troops stopped advancing in another area near Gogra. That withdrawal was described by India’s ministry at the time as restoring the area to the “pre-standoff period”.

The dispute centres along the line of actual control (LAC). This divides

areas of physical control – rather than territorial claims – between Chinese-held and Indian-held territories, from Ladakh in the west to India’s north-eastern state of Arunachal Pradesh, claimed by China.

According to India, the control line is 2,167 miles long, while China says it is much shorter.

Tensions over the disputed section of border in the Himalayas exploded in June 2020, when at least 24 soldiers died in violent clashes. The Indian authorities said 20 of its soldiers had died, while Beijing confirmed four Chinese deaths. It was the deadliest incident between the two nuclear powers in 50 years.

After the clashes, in which soldiers

fought with sticks and rocks in hand-to-hand combat, the two countries stationed hundreds of thousands of troops backed by artillery, tanks and fighter jets along the LAC.

Since the 2020 clashes, and amid claims of continuing encroachment by the Chinese, top military leaders from both sides have met 16 times to negotiate and there have been several disengagements. However, the two countries have struggled to agree on some specifics, and tensions have remained high.

Brahma Chellaney, a professor of strategic studies at the Centre for Policy Research in Delhi, said that the return of peace and tranquillity in the border region still looked distant.

“The latest disengagement agreement relates to the smallest Chinese encroachment – on a traditional Indian patrolling area,” Chellaney said. “China has been reluctant thus far to discuss with India its largest and deepest encroachment – into the northernmost Dapsang plateau of the Indian Ladakh region.”

“China’s stealth encroachments of April 2020 on the borderlands of Indian Ladakh violated all its border-peace agreements with India. Since then, China has engaged in a frenzied buildup of its military infrastructure and capabilities along the Himalayas. The two remain on a war footing along the glaciated heights of the Himalayas.”

Financial

Tax reform is key to survival of Ukraine, economists say

Phillip Inman

Ukraine's government needs to overhaul its tax and spending policies or risk an economic crisis that could "cripple its ability to sustain the war effort", according to a group of leading economists.

With inflation racing to more than 20% and a debt crisis looming, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy must introduce reforms to stabilise the economy's shaky foundations, they warned.

"Ukraine's survival - and Europe's future - is at stake," the economists said, adding that "extraordinary challenges must be matched by extraordinary policies and extraordinary support from Ukraine's international partners".

Measures to widen the number of people paying tax would improve the government's finances, while greater coordination between the central bank and the finance ministry would support the currency, the group said. They also recommended

anti-corruption measures to limit the amount of cash leaking out of the economy, helping the government to cope with the costs of a long war.

After Russia invaded Ukraine in February, Kyiv implemented a series of emergency economic measures to cope with the disruption and extra military costs. While foreign governments have financed and supplied military hardware and training to support the war effort, Kyiv has funded most of its domestic policies by printing the local currency, the hryvnia, and deferring payments on \$20bn (£17bn) of foreign debt.

Nine economists working for an academic network of economists, the Centre for Economic Policy Research, which includes the former International Monetary Fund economic advisers Simon Johnson, Barry Eichengreen, Maurice Obstfeld and Kenneth Rogoff, said the emergency measures had run their course and Ukraine needed to adopt a more strategic approach.

The rating agency Moody's has forecast that Ukraine's budget deficit will hit 22% of GDP this year - \$50bn

- forcing the government to print more money to fill the gap.

A recent devaluation of the hryvnia has failed to ease pressure from international investors who have seen that "moral support for Ukraine is only partly translating into a strong financial lifeline". An increase in the central bank base rate to 25% has similarly failed to instil confidence in the management of the economy.

The economists said the government should stop relying on the central bank to print money and begin taxing wealthy Ukrainians and selling war bonds to ordinary citizens. Ukraine has a flat personal income tax rate of 18%. A military levy introduced in 2015 adds a further 1.5 percentage points.

The G7 and EU have announced official financing commitments to Ukraine worth \$29.6bn. However,

\$50bn

Ukraine's forecast budget deficit, which would force the government to print money to fill the gap

the country's allies and international financial institutions are understood to have only disbursed \$12.7bn.

The economists' report coincides with analysis by the World Bank, the EU and Kyiv that shows how the invasion has harmed Ukraine's infrastructure, education system and health sector, and pushed up poverty levels. As of 1 June, direct damage had reached more than \$97bn, they said, with housing, transport, commerce and industry the hardest hit sectors.

Disruption to the economy is expected to cost another \$252bn this year, cutting Ukraine's GDP by 15.1% and increasing the proportion of people in poverty from 2% to 21%.

"In the next 18-36 months, about \$105bn will be needed [from internal sources of finance and external donors] to address the most urgent needs," the report said.

The economists suggest widening the tax base and increasing taxation rates to survive the period of conflict.

More controversially, the authors argue that market forces should become a larger feature of Ukraine's highly regulated economy.

They said the government's Achilles heel was persistent corruption and a hidden, untaxed business sector that would be difficult to reform using existing institutions, adding: "To this end, the aim should be to pursue extensive radical deregulation of economic activity, avoid price controls, and facilitate a productive reallocation of resources."

Mike Ashley's retail empire Frasers poised for return to the FTSE 100

Zoe Wood

Mike Ashley's retail empire is returning to the FTSE 100 after a six-year hiatus after the sale of a defence firm created an opening for Frasers Group in the leading City share index.

Frasers, which owns high street brands including Sports Direct and House of Fraser, is poised to rejoin the index on Tuesday, taking up the slot vacated by the defence manufacturer Meggitt, which has been bought by its US rival Parker Hannifin.

Frasers, then trading as Sports Direct, fell out of the blue chip index in 2016 when its share price slumped after a Guardian investigation revealed poor pay and working conditions at the company as well as poor trading in its stores.

A lot has changed since as Ashley, who is worth about £4bn according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, sought to diversify from discount clothing. He acquired the House of Fraser department stores in 2018 and has been investing heavily in the luxury Flannels chain.

Although Ashley remains the business's controlling shareholder with close to 70%, he is no longer its public face, having installed his son-in-law Michael Murray as chief executive earlier this year. One former worker described Murray as "a more acceptable version of Mike Ashley".

Frasers has been a bright spot among UK retail stocks this year as investors expect surging inflation will force shoppers to cut back while squeezing companies' profit margins. This week both Primark's owner, Associated British Foods, and Asos reported challenging market conditions.

The share price is up 20% over the past year to about 810p with Frasers reporting in the summer that both sales and profits had rebounded strongly after the Covid pandemic. Analysts say the company is benefiting from a cooling of competition in sports retail and the closure of House of Fraser's weakest stores.

Frasers has continued its strategy of buying up distressed competitors. This year alone it has acquired the online retailers I Saw It First, Missguided and Studio Retail.

£4bn

How much Mike Ashley is worth, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index

Asos cuts profit forecast as people cut back on buying new clothes

Mark Sweney

Asos has said sales in August were weaker than expected and warned that full-year profits would be at the bottom end of its guidance, with the cost of living crisis hitting cash-strapped shoppers.

The online fashion retailer, which made more than £190m in profits last year, expects profits for the year to the end of August to be about £20m.

"Having seen good growth in June and July, sales in August were weaker than anticipated," the company said. "This reflected the impact of accelerating inflationary pressures on consumers and a slow start to autumn/winter shopping."

The slump in sales has resulted in the company downgrading its annual growth forecast to about 2%, from the 4% to 7% guidance issued in June.

Asos expects profits to hit the bottom end of its guidance, issued in June, of £20m to £60m.



▲ Younger buyers targeted by Asos lines, above, are facing higher bills

2%

Asos growth forecast, downgraded from its 4%-7% guidance issued in June due to weaker August sales

The company's shares soared during the coronavirus pandemic, when consumers turned to online shopping, but are now at a 12-year low.

On Thursday the owner of Primark warned that it expected lower profits next year as it grappled with a strong dollar and soaring costs.

Earlier this summer, Asos said it was experiencing a "significant increase" in returns in the UK and

Europe, which would have a "disproportionate impact on profitability".

Asos's twentysomething customers were particularly affected by the cost of living crisis, with rents going up in many countries, along with the cost of petrol and food.

In May, the rival online retailer Missguided called in administrators prompted by clothing suppliers who are owed millions of pounds.

FTSE 100
+89.01

7351.07

All share
+50.90

4041.46

Dow Indl
+335.86

32110.38

Nikkei 225
+149.47

28214.75

£/€
1.1533

-0.0006

£/\$
1.1582

+0.0093



◀ An oil rig in the North Sea during a winter storm, one of the possible scenarios in next week's annual drill
PHOTOGRAPH: GETTY/ISTOCKPHOTO

Energy rationing

Why the fuel crisis may need another U-turn from Truss

Alex Lawson
Energy correspondent

Alarms blare as a huge storm crashes in off the North Sea, taking out the St Fergus gas terminal in Aberdeenshire. A power failure renders the Hatfield Moor gas storage facility in South Yorkshire useless. A foreign power attacks subsea power cables from Norway. Stay calm, it's only a drill. These are the sorts of eventualities that the energy industry will simulate next week, as a routine annual emergency gas shortage drill takes on national significance.

Exercise Degree, run by National Grid, has been doubled this year from two days to four, on 13-14 September and 4-5 October. It comes amid debate over how probable blackouts are this winter and whether Liz Truss's energy bills freeze increases that probability because she has not encouraged rationing.

In the rest of Europe, officials have acted to limit usage, as Vladimir Putin weaponises gas supply even further. Germany has capped heating of public offices at 19C and switched off lighting of public monuments; in Spain air conditioning in hotels and restaurants can go no lower than 27C; and in France, air-conditioned shops that do not keep their

doors shut to save energy risk a €750 (£650) fine. In California, people have been asked to reduce consumption as a heatwave puts strain on the grid.

So far, Truss has declined to follow suit. While there have been hints about a public information campaign to encourage people to reduce energy use, the new prime minister has refused either to introduce mandatory rationing for households and businesses, or urge the public to cut back.

The decision is deeply political. While the government has said the country is not reliant on Russian gas, consumers are exposed to wholesale price rises resulting from Gazprom's supply cuts to Europe. Low winds or very cold weather could also play a part in the increased likelihood of blackouts this winter. Leaked planning documents suggest the power could go out for four days in January in a worst-case scenario.

However, after the Covid lockdowns, there appears to be a deep reluctance to tell the public how many times a day they should use the kettle or when to put the dishwasher on, amid fears it would offend libertarian Tories. Asked last week if she was ruling out energy rationing, Truss said: "I do rule that out. Yes."

The government has repeatedly said consumers and businesses will have the power they need over the winter. "It is really down to

governments to give people good advice rather than allow them to make wrong decisions," says Dr Jan Rosenow of the Regulatory Assistance Project thinktank. "There is a political risk from saying it wants to limit your energy use and this government has said it's not keen to intervene. They believe energy use is the choice of individuals."

Stew Horne, head of policy at the not-for-profit Energy Saving Trust, says: "In Europe, we're seeing national turn downs to reduce the pressure on generating electricity and manage the extreme costs. These discussions are well developed in other jurisdictions, but we do not have that here yet."

"By contrast, we've seen lots of individual interest from both consumers and businesses about reducing energy for this winter, as well as long-term measures like insulation."

With inflation at 10.1% and the

19C

Temperature cap on heating in German public offices. Lighting of public monuments is off too

20%

Reduction in electricity use in Brazil through rationing and penalties during severe drought in 2001

£2,500 energy bills freeze still nearly double the Ofgem price cap a year ago, many consumers will ration their usage with or without a government or industry-led campaign. Horne says: "There are already signs that people are self-rationing or self-disconnecting, which is very worrying given that we're in summer when energy use is typically lower."

However, there are concerns that Truss's support package may discourage those who can afford those bills from making energy savings around the house. Paul Johnson, the director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, said: "If you're holding prices constant, what takes the strain is supply, so that increases the risk that you'll end up with shortages."

Accurate forecasts on the likelihood of blackouts are difficult while the question over whether Russia will completely cut gas supplies to Europe looms large. Other possibilities, such as a reduction in energy supplies to the UK from Norway and France this winter, lurk too. Planned shutdowns for two units at the Heysham nuclear plant in Lancashire, in October and November, threaten to further strain the system.

However, it is estimated the average British household experiences less than 30 minutes in power outages a year, despite some properties losing their supply for days after storms earlier this year.

With the nights drawing in, have ministers left it too late to galvanise the public to reduce energy usage? Precedents suggest not. In the days after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster, Japan switched into power-saving mode, turning off lights, printers, vending machines and idling lifts. Business attire even changed to save on air conditioning - ties were out, polo shirts in.

A report from the International Energy Agency noted that severe droughts in Brazil in 2001 led to the country reducing its electricity use by 20% over 10 months through rationing and penalties for those who failed to cut back. In the same year, blackouts were avoided in New Zealand through a "10 for 10" campaign to reduce electricity use by 10% during a 10-week period amid concerns about the hydroelectric supply.

"I'm surprised there has been no advice or temporary rules around energy efficiency," Rosenow says. "Given the severity of the cost situation and the huge risks in the supply chain we have not seen any significant initiatives to impact the demand side. We've seen plenty of discussion on the supply side - around restarting fracking, oil and gas licences but we still have huge energy wastage."

In proclaiming the king the lord mayor honours an ages-old tradition

Rob Davies

In the shadow of the Bank of England, workers are jet-washing a statue of the Duke of Wellington. Mobilised after the death of Elizabeth II, they are readying the commercial hub known as the Square Mile to stage an event unprecedented in the lives of all but the most senior City veterans.

Today, at the Royal Exchange, Charles III will be publicly proclaimed the new sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It will be the second proclamation ceremony of the day. His accession must first be confirmed at St James's Palace, before heralds travel east to notify the City of London of its new monarch.

Yards from where these events will unfold, a flow of commuters is suddenly halted, to allow the passage of a convoy hauling giant artillery guns towards the Tower of London, ready for the 62-gun salute.

As they roll past, the bells of the City's many churches ring, muffled in mourning, to mark the passing of a monarch who presided over profound change in Britain's centuries-old commercial nerve centre.

With a history reaching back 1,000 years, the City - a ceremonial county distinct from London itself - is one of the few institutions that can claim a heritage nearly as long and storied as that of the monarchy.

The first lord mayor of London, Henry Fitz Ailwin de Londonstane, assumed the title in 1189. Today, the annually elected position at the head of the City of London Corporation is partly ambassadorial. But it gives the holder a seat on the Accession Council, the group of dignitaries tasked with proclaiming the new monarch.

That duty for its current, 693rd incumbent, Vincent Keaveny, a commercial lawyer, reflects the enduring prominence of the City as part of the fabric of British history, one that made the Queen a regular visitor.

It was at the corporation's Guildhall



▲ Elizabeth II with the lord mayor of London during her 1977 silver jubilee celebrations

PHOTOGRAPH: MSI/MIRRORPIX/VIA GETTY

'She brought a spirit of hope and aspiration for the business community'

David Buik
Former trader

home - where in 1977 she celebrated her silver jubilee - that she gave her "annus horribilis" speech in 1992. By that time the City had changed immeasurably since her ascension in 1952, when it was still recovering from the devastation of the blitz.

David Buik, 78, a financial pundit and former trader, remembers how the rebuild was still going as he arrived for his first day at work on 18 September 1962. "When I walked out of the Barbican station for the first time, it was a bomb site," he recalls.

"What she did was bring a spirit of hope and aspiration for the business community because she triggered a spirit of friendship and innovation."

London's tallest building at the

start of Elizabeth II's reign was the 111-metre tall St Paul's Cathedral. Today, nearly 100 buildings stretch above 100 metres, including the Gherkin and the 278-metre 22 Bishopsgate.

The roster of livery companies - the modern incarnation of medieval guilds - offers another gauge of the City's evolution. In 1952, the worshipful company of farmers was the newest addition to a list that included brewers, blacksmiths and, oldest of all, the mercers's guild, formed in 1394. They have since been joined by air pilots, tax advisers and even management consultants.

All the while, the buzz of commerce grew ever louder. So unstoppable is the commercial machine that, even on the day after the Queen's death, the London Stock Exchange remained open for financial trading.

That indefatigability may be appropriate, given how the City has weathered so many financial storms during her lifetime. "There was the Suez crisis in 1956, Black Wednesday, the 1998 Russian credit crisis, the Iraq war, the 2008 banking crisis and Brexit," says Buik.

What the Queen offered the City, he believes, was an island of certainty amid the tumult of financial markets. "The tangible reason is hard to say, but the spiritual reason is there because everybody knew what she stood for," he says. "That feeling of 'my word is my bond', so important in the City, filtered through."

The Guardian Jobs Classified



LAY MEMBER FOR THE KING'S COUNSEL SELECTION PANEL

The Law Society and the Bar Council are seeking to recruit a lay member for the Selection Panel which recommends advocates for appointment as King's Counsel (KC). The KC rank identifies excellence in advocacy in the higher courts. It is the most significant award available to an advocate, whether solicitor or barrister.

The Selection Panel contains eleven members - two senior barristers, two senior solicitors, two retired senior judges, and five lay members. Legal and lay members play an equal part in all the work of the Panel, but the Chair is always drawn from amongst the lay members. It is essential that all the members should be of very high calibre: the Panel has significant responsibilities for making decisions with a real impact on the practice of law at the highest level.

Subject to the principle of appointment on merit, the professional bodies regard it as important that the composition of the Selection Panel should itself be diverse. Of the members will serve on the Panel in 2023, six are women and two are men; two of the members are from a minority ethnic background, neither of whom is from a black African or black Caribbean background.

Panel members must be available for a minimum of 30 days a year, mostly between mid-June and late October. Appointments will initially be for a two-year period, which may be extended to a maximum of five years. Meetings will be held in London. Remuneration is at a daily rate to reflect the important and demanding nature of the work.

As a lay member you must be able to demonstrate an ability to sift through complex evidence from multiple sources and reach incisive judgements. To command public confidence and respect, you must display a proven commitment to equality of opportunity and diversity. You will have well-developed interviewing skills and have held a senior position of authority; and must not be a member of the legal profession. Lay magistrates are eligible to apply.

Applications from all sections of the community are welcomed.

Please go to www.qcappointments.org and follow the links to download fuller information, including how to make an application.

If you have an enquiry which is not covered by that information, or in the event of difficulties, please feel free to call the KCA Chief Executive, Russell Wallman, on 0207 831 0020.

The closing date for applications is 5pm, 21 October 2022.

Browse the best new books



Support The Guardian's independent journalism with every book you buy

Visit guardianbookshop.com

The
Guardian
Bookshop

More rate rises needed to rein in eurozone inflation, says ECB

Phillip Inman

Interest rates across the eurozone must continue to ratchet upwards to tackle rapidly rising inflation, European Central Bank policymakers said yesterday. The ECB's call to

prioritise the fight against inflation with further increases in the cost of borrowing came after it raised rates by an unprecedented 0.75 percentage points on Thursday to 1.25%.

It said eurozone inflation was at its highest rate in almost half a century in August - 9.1%, up from 8.9% in July - and at risk of becoming entrenched.

"Inflation remains unacceptably high," said Peter Kažimír, Slovakia's central bank chief, who sits on the ECB's governing body. "The priority now is to continue vigorously the normalisation of monetary policy."

Kažimír's remarks were widely interpreted as a call for further significant increases in borrowing costs despite the likelihood it will significantly slow the 19-member currency bloc's economic recovery.

Echoing his words, Klaas Knot, the Dutch central bank president, said slowing growth was a necessary

side-effect. "We expect inflation to keep rising in the coming months, so that means we only have one problem on our plate: inflation."

Bank of England officials are expected to repeat last month's 0.5 percentage point rise when they next meet on 22 September - a week later than planned due to the death of the Queen - taking the base rate to 2.25%.

Sanjay Raja, a senior economist at Deutsche Bank Research, said the monetary policy committee's nine members were likely to adopt a middle course after a three-way split,

with two members backing a 0.25 percentage point increase and two supporting a 0.75 point rise.

Raja said the government's pledge to inject £150bn into the economy to bring down energy bills would be considered inflationary by the Bank, leading to further increases in rates next year to a peak of 4%.

Speaking in parliament this week, the Bank's chief economist, Huw Pill, said: "We are here to ensure [fiscal policies] don't generate inflation ... Our remit is to get inflation back to target ... We do have work to do."

In Money
Saving cash
Discover all the unexpected discounts available once you are over 60
Page 56 →



Get your pensions and ISAs working harder for you

Plus get £100 to £1,500 cashback
Exclusions, T&Cs apply



Keeping track of investments across different providers can be time-consuming and difficult. Moving them to Fidelity could make them easier to manage and help get your money working harder.

- A single view, making it easier to keep on top of your investments
- Low service fee, so you keep more of your money
- Investment ideas and guidance to help you make the right choices

You'll also receive £100 to £1,500 cashback if you apply to transfer your pensions, ISAs or other investments to us by 6 October 2022. Exclusions, T&Cs apply.

Important information - The value of investments can go down as well as up, so you may not get back the amount you originally invest. You cannot normally access money in a SIPP until age 55 (57 from 2028). Pension transfers can be complex and may not be suitable for everyone. Pensions with guaranteed benefits and advised transfers are not eligible for this offer. Before making your decision, please read our transfer guide, pension transfer factsheet and the cashback T&Cs at fidelity.co.uk/cashback

For more info:

0800 368 1727

Lines open Mon to Fri 9am to 5.30pm, Sat 9am to 2pm

fidelity.co.uk/cashback

ISAs | Pensions | Funds | Shares | Advice



Issued by Financial Administration Services Limited, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Fidelity, Fidelity International, the Fidelity International logo and F symbol are trademarks of F.L. Limited. UKM0722/371063/CSO10994/061022 A

Stay Disconnected to the world

We believe businesses work better when they trade without barriers and cross border delays; that's why our customs authority works in strategic partnership with your business. As a pioneer in automated customs procedures, we offer business-friendly customs policies, providing a simple solution for easy cross-border verification, with fast transit times, free zones and 24/7 clearance. Strategically located in southern Belgium, the Wallonia region provides access to unparalleled logistics expertise, with alternative inland customs locations for the efficient flow of goods and a reliable infrastructure. This includes Liège, an e-commerce hub and voted the world's best cargo airport. So you can see why many British companies including CSM and Flying Logistics have already chosen to break free from custom controls and establish operations here, especially as we're only two hours from London.

Wallonia The southern region of Belgium

Call us now on 0207 245 4164 and find out how we can help you, free of charge.

investinwallonia.be/brexit



Wallonia.be

Money

Shared ownership

A low-cost way to buy - but is there a catch?

It is touted as a cheaper way to get on the property ladder, but there can be drawbacks.

Patrick Collinson weighs up the pros and cons

Shared ownership is promoted as the low-cost, low-deposit path for first-time buyers to escape the rent trap. But is the part-rent, part-buy model the staircase to heaven or hell?

For Caitlin Bucktrout and her partner, Sam Ward, both 25, it has been heavenly. They picked up the keys to their newly built three-bed semi near Headingley in Leeds in February 2020, just as the coronavirus pandemic threw the country into lockdown.

Their 25% share costs them just under £900 a month (including the rent element and service charges) - or almost exactly the same as the rent they paid on their former two-bed flat. But their new home comes with an extra bedroom, a garden and parking - and they now have their fabled first foot on the property ladder.

"It's not lost on us how lucky we are. We have a lovely house on a really good corner plot overlooking parkland. We're both 25 and, of our social group, half are still renting, and the ones that have been able to buy on their own have largely been given money through inheritances," Caitlin says.

But why did they opt to buy only 25% rather than buy the £250,000 property outright?

The crux of the matter was the deposit. Buying a £250,000 home on the open market typically means raising a deposit of at least £25,000, which is far beyond the means of most young people unable to save as they struggle with high rents and all the other costs of living.

Caitlin and Sam's shared ownership deal required that they put down a much more affordable minimum deposit of £8,500 (although they chose to add a little more). "We did not have a big deposit, so that meant we had very limited options on the open market," Caitlin says.

But while the experience for Caitlin and Sam has been extremely positive, shared ownership is not without its drawbacks.

Even though a buyer owns just a share of the property, they are responsible for all repairs. Many shared ownership properties, particularly in cities, are leasehold flats that come with high service charges. The purchase price is sometimes steeper than similar properties on the open market and, if their circumstances change, buyers are mostly forbidden from subletting the property (although some big housing associations are now more relaxed about this). The mortgage rate on shared ownership homes can also (although not always) be slightly higher than standard purchases.

In recent years shared ownership has been overshadowed by the government's vast help-to-buy programme. But that will close to new applicants from the end of October, and housing associations and lenders are bracing themselves for a rise in interest in shared ownership as an alternative.

In addition, Shared Ownership Week kicks off on Thursday and runs until 21 September.

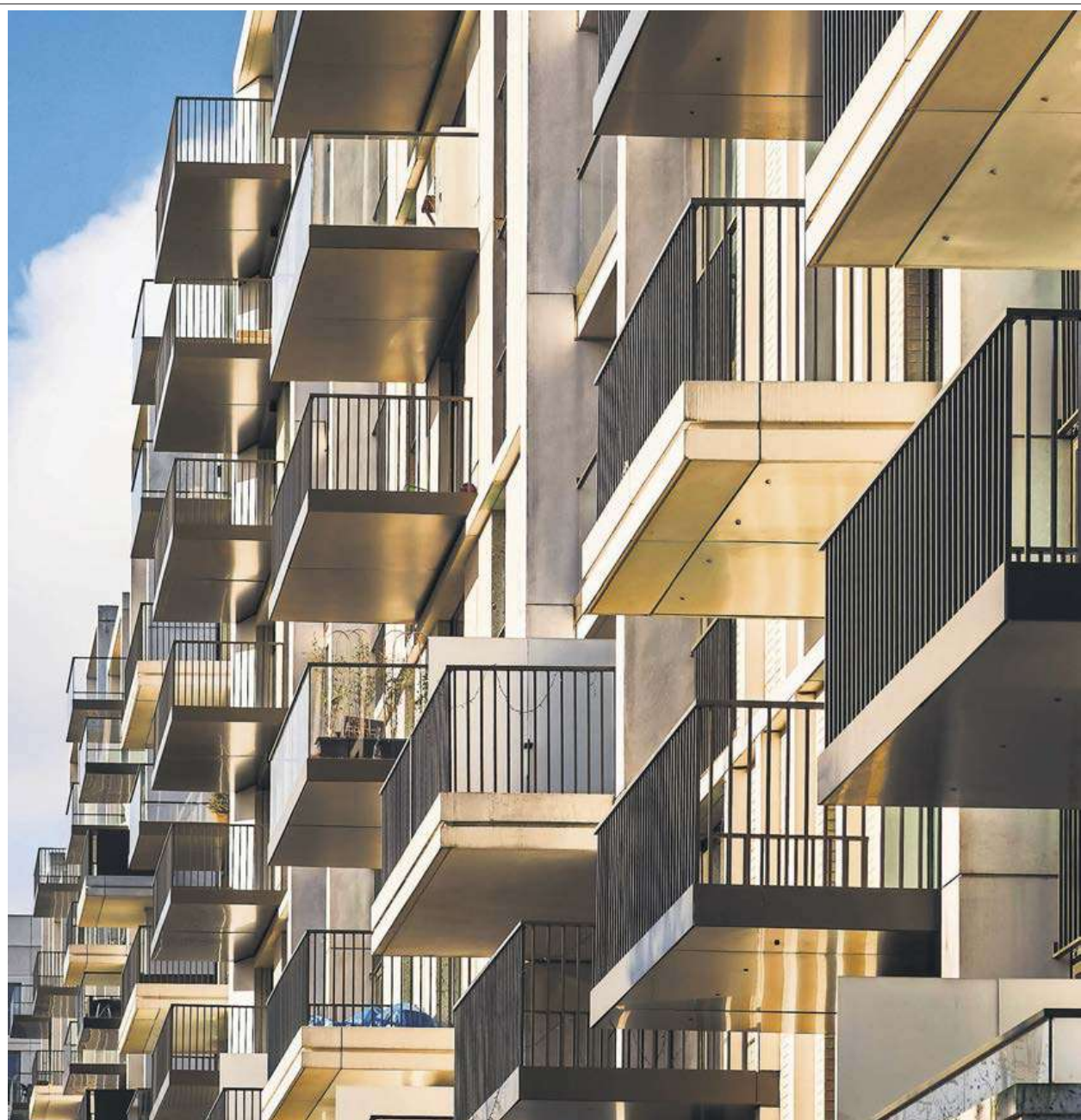
So what is shared ownership and how does it work - and should you stand on the sidelines as the expected recession next year could lead to house prices falling?

What is shared ownership?

You buy a share in the overall value of a home, usually a new-build, and pay a rent and service charge on the rest of it. You can then "staircase" upwards: buying more of the home in chunks as you can afford it. But there is no requirement to buy more.

There are different rules on shared ownership in England, Scotland and Wales (in Northern Ireland there is something similar called co-ownership).

Typically you start with buying a 25% share, although sometimes schemes have a slightly higher minimum level. Under the "new model" shared ownership rules to be introduced in England next year, the minimum share falls to 10%, and staircasing can be done in 1% steps.



▲ Buyers of shared ownership flats could well face big service charges, as well as paying for all repairs

PHOTOGRAPH: BRIAN ANTHONY/ALAMY

'It's not lost on us how lucky we are ... We didn't have a big deposit, so we had very limited options'

Caitlin Bucktrout
Homebuyer



How much does it cost?

Generally, the total cost comes in just a little bit less than renting the same property locally.

"We try to ensure overall outgoings are lower than what you would pay for the equivalent in the private rental sector," says John Lumley, a director of London & Quadrant (L&Q), which manages almost 120,000 properties and is building about 1,000 to 1,500 shared ownership homes annually.

Note that city apartments come with high service charges, which will almost certainly rise every year.

Here are two examples of properties currently for sale on shared ownership.

● **London:** a one-bed, 50 sq metres apartment in Whitechapel, in London's East End, through L&Q. The open market price is quoted at £500,000. The shared ownership buyer takes 25%, so that's a £125,000 mortgage likely to cost about £575 a month. The buyer then has to pay monthly rent of £656 on the 75% they don't own. The monthly service charge is another £258.53.

So that's a total of £1,490. That

sounds quite steep but open market rents for similar one-bedroom properties in the area are about £1,750 to £2,250.

● **Cornwall:** a two-bed end-of-terrace home in Probus, just outside Truro, through LiveWest housing association. The open market price is £250,000. The shared ownership buyer takes 40%, so that's a £100,000 mortgage likely to cost about £522. The buyer then has to pay monthly rent of £312.50 for the 60% they don't own. The service charge is £19.76 a month and building insurance is £7.75.

So that's a total of £862.34 a month. Two-bed houses in the area are renting commercially at about £950 to £1,100 a month.

How much deposit do I have to put down?

That's the core benefit of shared ownership. Typically you will be required to find a deposit equivalent to at least 5% of the share of the home you are buying.

On a £400,000 property, a 25% share is £100,000, and the 5% deposit is £5,000. On the open market, mortgage lenders will typically want a minimum deposit

Cost of living crisis The risks of taking pension cash at 55

Page 55

Money hacks How to save cash when you're 60-plus

Page 56



of 5%, so that would be £20,000 on a £400,000 house, but they often recommend you put down 10% - £40,000 in this case - to access sensible mortgage rates.

Are they very picky about who is allowed to buy?

Your total household income must be less than £80,000 (£90,000 in London and £60,000 in Wales). The scheme is intended for first-time buyers, although people who are former owners can also apply. For some schemes you will have to show a connection to the local area.

There is a separate scheme, called older people's shared ownership, where if you buy 75% of the property there is no rent on the rest.

Do the good deals get snapped up immediately?

It will depend on the area. Debra Saunders of LiveWest, which builds about 300 shared ownership homes a year, says: "Last week we released a scheme in Taunton, Somerset, with eight units. We had 83 applicants in half an hour."

She says Bristol is particularly "hot" at the moment. Guardian

Money found more availability in the London region than in the south-west, where almost all the shared ownership homes we looked at appeared to be "under offer".

What about a secondhand shared ownership property?

Smart buyers will look for resales, where an existing shared ownership buyer is selling up. These tend to be cheaper because they no longer have the new-build premium in the price. But check how many years are left on the lease because that can cause problems in future. All shared ownerships are done on the controversial leasehold basis, although new ones are likely to have 999-year leases with zero ground rent.

So where do I find shared ownership homes?

Unfortunately, there is no single database. Confusingly, the government's website directs you to help-to-buy agents, and from there you can search for shared ownership homes. You should also keep an eye on local housing association websites.

Plus Rightmove and Zoopla list resales.

Will the rent shoot up?

It will go up, but according to a formula, not a landlord's whim. Rents tend to be calculated at between 2% and 2.75% of the value of the share not owned by the buyer.

Any chance the price includes gas and electricity?

Sorry, we couldn't find any that included bills.

Can I do what I like to the property?

Yes and no. It is your home, and you don't have to check with the landlord if you want to repaint the walls. But any significant changes - such as knocking down a wall or adding a conservatory - will need prior approval.

With any home improvements and repairs, you will have to pay 100% of the cost. A housing association may own 75% but it won't cough up for painting and decorating. However, as most are new-builds, serious repairs should be covered by warranties.

What if my partner and I break up after a few years? Who pays the rent and mortgage then?

One of the big drawbacks

with shared ownership in the past was strict rules that prohibited subletting. So if you lost your job or got divorced, it was often messy.

But Lumley of L&Q says the rules have become more relaxed. "We do allow subletting. Housing associations have always had discretion to permit subletting, and we have interpreted that in the broadest possible way."

The housing associations are keen to avoid buy to let on the sly. In circumstances of a breakup where the one remaining partner can't afford the full cost, there are options to reverse staircase - drop the percentage you own - and in exceptional cases a housing association can do a full buyback of the property and just rent it to the former owner.

How do I sell?

This used to be another sticky part of shared ownership. You always had to inform the housing association, and they would try selling the property to another prospective shared ownership buyer. Only if no buyer was found that way could you sell it on the open market.

But owners largely have the freedom, if they wish, to sell via an estate agent (although you can avoid most sale fees if you go through the housing association). It's also possible, as a 25% owner, to sell 100% of the property - it's called a back-to-back sale, where a new buyer can buy the entirety of the home.

Will the mortgage be at a stupid interest rate?

No. "The availability of mortgages has increased hugely in recent years," Lumley says.

Lloyds, Halifax and Barclays all offer shared ownership home loans, with Leeds building society also one of the big players.

The two- and five-year fixes at the Leeds are the same or in some cases even cheaper than its mainstream open market products.

Do I have to pay full stamp duty but only own 25% of the home?

You can choose to just pay stamp duty only on the specific share you are buying. But as a first-time buyer, you typically pay no stamp duty on the first £300,000 in any case.

Will I be trapped if house prices fall?

If you are of the view that house prices are about to collapse (and interest rates are almost certainly marching upwards), then you shouldn't be entering into shared ownership. It's worth noting that in a falling market, studio flats in particular may become difficult to sell, as open market buyers will be able to afford larger flats. Shared ownership flats may also be regarded as too much hassle if it is a buyers' market.

'There was nothing in our price bracket' Buyers on buying through shared ownership



'We're both 22 and didn't think we could ever afford our own home'

When Jessica Sleight and Cameron Webb began looking for a home together, it was soon apparent that there was nothing they could afford in their corner of Devon.

"We had meetings with mortgage advisers and were told the maximum we could get was £188,000. We were looking at Dartmouth, Torquay and Paignton, and there was nothing in that price bracket. We didn't even think of Exeter because of prices there. And prices kept on rising," Jessica says.

Then the couple came across LiveWest's shared ownership scheme. "We applied and got approved fairly quickly, but then the race was on to pick a plot on the development, Harrington Park in Exeter. I was literally running up a hill near my dad's house as I couldn't get a signal. We wanted plot 27, but that had gone by the time we got through. But we got plot 29, which had an even bigger garden."

In March the couple took a 40% share in the three-bed semi, which had a full market value of £288,000. They are now paying £445 for the mortgage and £343 for the rent, with a service charge of £160 a year. They had to put down a 5% deposit on their share.

Although Jessica and Cameron have been living with parents while saving for a deposit, they say their friends are paying nearly £900 a month for rental flats in Torquay. "We knew that if we started renting, we'd never stop, as we could never save," Jessica says.

"It's a lovely estate, and you'd never know it was shared ownership. When we started out, we always knew we wanted to go down the new-build route. Neither of us are very handy."

▲ Cameron Webb and Jessica Sleight are paying £445 for their mortgage and £343 for their rent in Devon

'I fell in love with it straight away'

Even though pub landlord Jonathan Kaye, 33, was pulling in good money from his job, London's property prices were always pulling away faster.

"I was renting in London for 11 years. I had a one-bed flat in Haggerston that was costing me £1,820 a month plus bills. When the pandemic happened, I lost my job and lived with my mother instead. I started to realise how much I was sinking in rent," Jonathan says.

"But I didn't want to put all my savings into a deposit, as there was an opportunity for me to launch my own pub in Vauxhall with some childhood friends. What attracted me most to shared ownership was that I only had to put down a £5,000 deposit and have my foot on the property ladder."

He bought a 25% share of a one-bed apartment valued at £400,000 in Greenwich Square, via the housing association L&Q.

The mortgage on his £100,000 share is £380, while the rent is £650 and the service charge is £150. That's a total of £1,180 a month - or considerably less than he was paying in Haggerston for rent only.

It has also meant he has had enough left over to help launch the pub, the Jolly Gardeners, which is already a hit with locals.

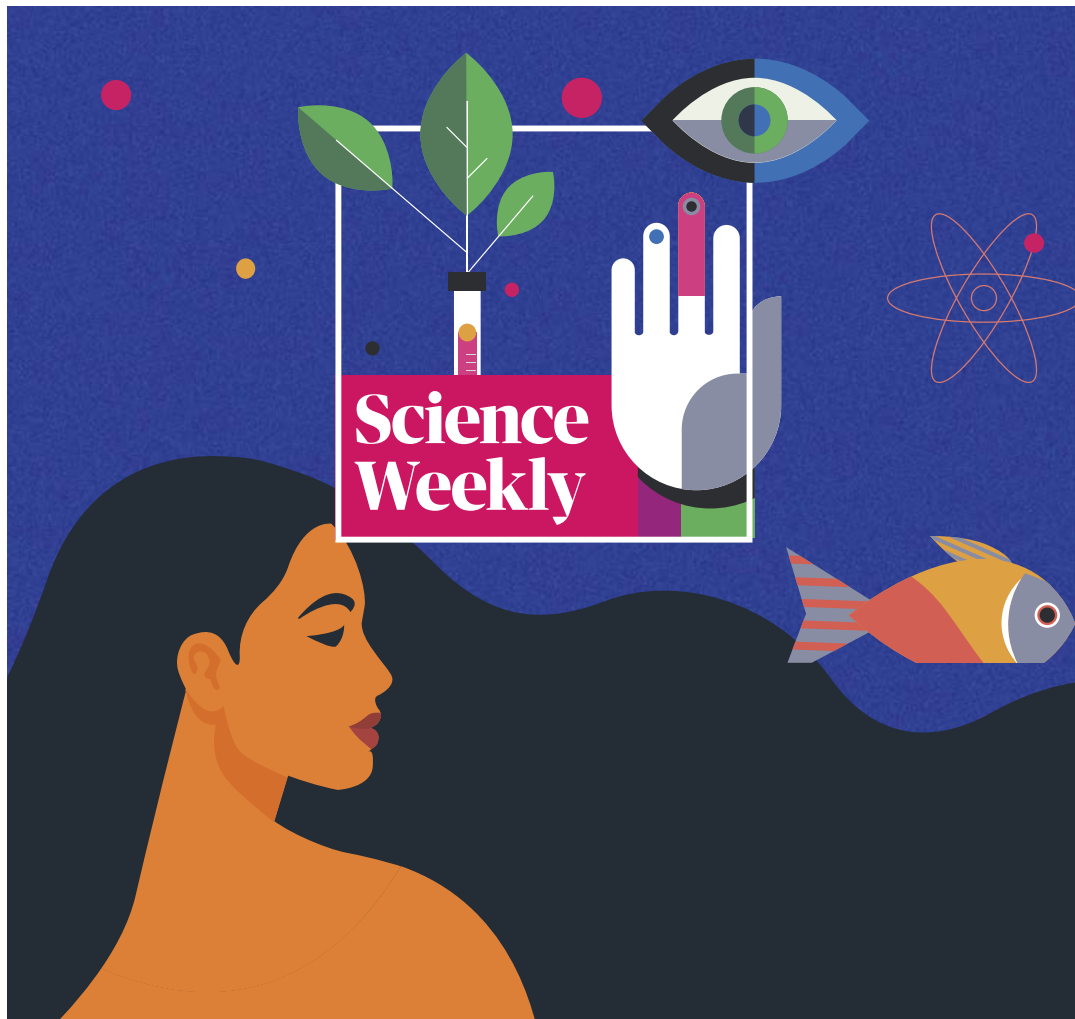
"I have a lovely one-bed flat on the first floor of an amazing apartment complex with a shared garden, and it's super-safe. I can paint the place how I like, put pictures up and relax knowing that a landlord is not going to object. I love it," Jonathan says.

Property

Fantasy house hunt

Homes with great kitchens as *The Great British Bake Off* returns

Page 57 →



Separating fact from fiction

Join the Guardian's science team as they cover the latest news and developments on everything from Covid-19 to space exploration, the climate crisis to adventures in the natural world.

Listen on:

Apple Podcasts | Google Podcasts | Spotify | Listen on amazon music

Listen wherever you get your podcasts

Consumer champions

Zoe Wood



Crypto scammers stole £55,000 from my father

During the pandemic my 75-year-old father was targeted by scammers via email and WhatsApp who convinced him they were investment managers who could develop his life savings of £55,000 into a fantastic sum by investing in cryptocurrency.

He had recently retired and was worried he had not saved enough for his, and my mother's, retirement, so was easy prey. He also has very little nous and gave the scammers, an outfit called MyCoinBanking, his account details including sort codes and account numbers.

The result was he lost the lot. I only found out when I completed his last tax return as he had been too embarrassed to tell us.

We filed a fraud claim with Barclays and its final decision was to reimburse him half of what was taken. Its rationale was he must share liability.

We are so upset. My dad is the victim. We are angry that Barclays would tell my dad - who struggles to use a mobile or the internet - that he is to blame. I think it has a duty of care.

The scammers were known to Barclays, so it should have flagged these transactions. That it didn't is a failure on its part and it should give a full refund.

My parents now have very little money and are fearful about the future.

VS, Woking

Fraud levels have soared in recent years with the Financial Ombudsman Service, which mediates between consumers and companies, just this week warning of a rise in savers falling for fake investment schemes.

The scammers who targeted your father promised bumper returns to fund a comfortable retirement. Instead, they emptied his account.

We asked Barclays to review your father's case but, unfortunately, it has not changed its mind. It has arrived at what is called a "shared blame" decision, which means there are elements of both customer and bank blame. This is why your father received a 50% refund of £27,500.

Barclays says the Financial Conduct Authority published an online warning about MyCoinBanking in 2019 (your father was targeted in October 2020) and this was available to find if due diligence was done before the investments began.

It says it also flagged several payments, and had scam conversations with him, but he approved them. As these conversations were in a branch it does not have transcripts to be certain the questions asked were sufficient.

Barclays says the fraud claim was thoroughly investigated and, with no new information, its position



▲ Fraudsters used a cryptocurrency scheme to trick a reader's father

is unchanged. Your father has the right to seek an independent review by the ombudsman. You have applied for one but, as an indication of the scale of the problem, have been told the wait is at least four months due to the number of cases it is handling.

I can't get a crucial DWP letter to help my brother

I am my brother's carer and deal with all aspects of his finances, including his benefits and paying his bills.

I am trying to apply for a discount on his water bill through Yorkshire Water's bill cap scheme for those on income-based benefits.

To do this, I need a letter from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) that states the amount of income-related employment and support allowance (Esa) he receives, and how often it is paid. Crucially, it must state his address or the water company will not accept it.

I have written to the DWP three times, and to his MP three times, but all I get are letters with my address on them (as his legal appointee).

I am a disabled carer struggling on benefits, against all the odds, to look after my partner and brother.

CA, Hull

You hit a brick wall with what should have been a simple request made on your brother's behalf.

We contacted the DWP and it has now issued a letter with the right address on it so you can proceed with the bill cap scheme application. You are very grateful.

If you receive an income-based benefit, or are part of a low-income household, it is worth going online to see if your water company has a similar discount scheme you could be eligible for.

Every cost saving helps in these tough times.

We welcome letters but cannot answer individually. Email consumer.champions@theguardian.com or write to Guardian, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU. Include a phone number. Letters are subject to our terms: [gu.com/letters-terms](https://www.guardian.com/letters-terms)

Cost of living crisis

Cashing in pension savings to pay bills could be very risky

It may be tempting to use retirement cash to meet household costs, but you need to be careful, as **Rupert Jones** reports

If you are struggling with rising living costs, it might be tempting - if you are over 55 - to dip into pension savings. The Guardian can reveal that many, who don't even turn 55 until next year, are being targeted by pension firms inviting them to "get the ball rolling" now on releasing cash - even though experts say this could be a very bad move for some, as they may end up worse-off in retirement and might even run out of money.

The former pensions minister Steve Webb told the Guardian that while the idea of using pension savings to deal with cost of living pressures such as household bills - or pay for luxuries such as a big holiday - might be "very seductive", there are lots of reasons why people should tread very carefully.

It was in 2015 that the government introduced reforms giving over-55s much more freedom over what they can do with retirement cash. For example, there are millions of people in their 50s and 60s who are still working, and who can - in theory, at least - access their pension pots and use the cash for whatever they like.

One of the big attractions is that the first 25% you release from your pension is tax-free.

But aside from the obvious

point that this is money for your retirement, there are a lot of potential hazards, including the fact that you could be clobbered by tax, or see your entitlement to means-tested benefits affected.

Readers who don't turn 55 for several months report receiving unsolicited letters - in official-looking brown envelopes, marked "private and confidential" - from a company called Portafina.

They are headed "good news about your pension" and explain that people can start releasing cash from age 55, adding: "It's your money, so you can spend it however you like. And with Portafina you can get the ball rolling from the age of 54."

It says that popular reasons for releasing pension money include boosting your disposable income, repaying debt, or helping children on to the property ladder.

The accompanying material states that each year Portafina helps thousands to release tax-free cash. It says there is a fee, ranging from 1% to 7% depending on the size and complexity of your scheme, which

30

Number of years you could be paying layers of fees on the rest of your money after taking the tax-free cash

£4,000

Amount your £40,000 annual tax-free allowance could be slashed to if you 'flexibly' access your pension



would, generally, come out of your pension, but that this is only charged if you instruct the firm to go ahead and release money to your bank account.

Experts say savers should be aware that if they do decide to access their pension, they can do this for themselves and don't need to pay large set-up fees.

Portafina says the vast majority (88%) of clients it helps, ask the firm to manage their remaining pension savings for them.

Commenting generally on companies targeting people about tapping into their retirement pots, Webb, now a partner at actuaries LCP, says some of these firms want you to consolidate all of your pensions with them.

"You take your tax-free cash and use it for paying debt or helping family etc, and they then get layers of fees on the rest - advice fees, platform fees, fund fees etc, possibly for the next 30 years."

He adds: "If you are an active member of a workplace pension, you are probably paying very little in charges." Transferring money out, particularly if it is an active pension pot, he says, "could be a very bad idea".

Webb says it is not just low charges.

If it is a workplace pension scheme, run by a group of trustees, "there's somebody keeping an eye on your scheme".

More generally, he says that as well as the obvious impact on living standards in retirement, there are some "hidden risks"

for people to be aware of before accessing their pensions.

● Dipping in now can make it much harder to build a pension pot back up in future if things improve because your annual limit for tax-privileged pension saving could fall by 90%.

At the moment, most people can save £40,000 a year into a pension and enjoy the benefits of tax relief. But someone who "flexibly" accesses a defined contribution (AKA money purchase) pension pot worth more than £10,000 can trigger the money purchase annual allowance, which slashes their annual limit to £4,000.

● The first lump sum withdrawal can sometimes trigger income tax at an emergency rate. If the pension provider doesn't hold a standard tax code for a saver, under HM Revenue and Customs rules, it has to deduct tax at a penal emergency rate, as if the saver was going to make multiple withdrawals over the year.

● Someone who takes out more

'While it may be very seductive to use pension savings there are lots of reasons why people should tread very carefully'

Steve Webb
Former pensions minister

◀ Releasing money from your pension pot could result in a tax bill or affect your benefit entitlement

PHOTOGRAPH: GARETH FULLER/PA

than they initially need and leaves the rest sitting in their bank or savings account, could see a deduction in any benefits they receive. In extreme cases, they could be disqualified from benefits altogether. For example, universal credit takes account of any savings above £6,000, and applies an absolute cut-off at £16,000, disqualifying anyone with savings above this level.

Portafina tells the Guardian that it "endeavours to offer a valuable service to clients in genuine need" - typically people who need to access money for "significant life events and unforeseen circumstances", generally before their target retirement date.

It adds: "We recognise that taking money early from pensions to meet immediate needs will mean there's less to provide for the future and, while we think most people understand this, we make that point in all our marketing material as well as highlighting it in our advice process ...

"We do not generally recommend taking money from pensions unless there is a real need for cash that can't be readily met in other ways. This is why a relatively small proportion of our initial inquiries tend to be recommended to do so."

Portafina says it broadly agrees that taking benefits from an active pension pot is generally not a good idea, particularly where there is employer matching of contributions, but that if the need is urgent, it might, in some cases, be preferable to other options.

On consolidating pensions, the company says this will depend on individual circumstances, adding: "Our recommended pension providers and funds, where we do recommend a transfer or a switch, are of the low-cost, passive investment type ... We do not recommend high-cost, active or esoteric investments or structures."

It says it charges a fee for initial advice and one for its ongoing service, adding: "Our fees are both tiered and capped."

Your newsletter for must-listen podcasts

Enjoy a wide range of voices, perspectives and superior storytelling



Let us lead you to your new favourite podcast. Discover the latest audio delights in our new-look newsletter covering entertainment, sports, politics and everything in between. There's sure to be something for your morning commute, your leisurely weekend, whenever and wherever else you enjoy listening.

☑ Scan to sign up to our free, weekly Hear Here newsletter

The Guardian

Money



ILLUSTRATION BY JAMIE WIGNALL

Money hacks How to save money when you're 60-plus

Harriet Meyer

Eating and entertainment

The soaring cost of living makes it more important than ever to ensure your money stretches as far as possible. Fortunately, if you are age 60-plus, you can benefit from a wide range of deals.

Some pubs, restaurants, cinemas and theatres offer discounts, particularly during weekdays when people are at work. And check with your local pub, as they often have discounted lunches on certain days.

The Odeon cinema chain has

reduced tickets through its Silver Cinema initiative, from £3.50 with tea, coffee and biscuits served before the film.

Similarly, Empire's Seniors scheme offers tickets for £3.75 every Wednesday, with tea or coffee again included.

Turning to theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company offers discounted tickets on selected performances, with 20% off on all seats for Monday and Tuesday evening performances and all midweek matinees.

Energy and bills

Most people born before 25 September 1956 are entitled to a

winter fuel payment of between £250 and £600 to help pay their heating bills. The amount includes a one-off "pensioner cost-of-living payment" this winter of between £150 and £300.

You should receive this automatically by 13 January 2023 if you get the state pension, but if you don't, you may need to make a claim.

If you receive certain benefits, such as pension credit, you can also claim the cold weather payment. This is worth £25 for every seven-day period of "very cold weather" between 1 November and 31 March.

The money should be paid into your bank account automatically, but if you don't receive it, contact

your pension centre or jobcentre. Check whether you are entitled to a free gas safety check from your energy supplier or local authority if you are over 60.

Remember, if you are struggling to pay your bills, your provider should do whatever it can to help elderly or vulnerable people.

This could include free or discounted home insulation or boiler installation, or an energy grant if you are in debt, for example.

Museums and attractions

The National Trust's senior membership offers over-60s who have been a member of the organisation for at least five out of the last 10 years, a 25% discount off adult rates. That is £57.60 for individual senior membership, or £95.40 for joint senior membership.

English Heritage offers reduced-price senior membership for people over 65, at £59 a year compared with £66 (or £92 a year for joint membership if you are both over 65). This gives you access to more than 400 historic sites, free entry for up to six children, and free or reduced entry to events.

Other sites offering deals include Longleat safari park, house and gardens, and Beamish open air museum.

Travel

If you have reached state pension age, which is now 66 for both men and women, you are entitled to free off-peak travel on local buses in England.

Check the government website to see if you qualify and to apply for an older person's bus pass.

In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland you are entitled to a free bus pass when you reach 60.

If you travel by train, you can apply for a senior railcard once you turn 60. This costs £30 for a year or £70 for three years, and gives a third off standard or first-class fares.

If you travel by coach, you can get a National Express senior coachcard for £15 a year (£12.50 plus £2.50 p&p) to save a third off standard and fully flexible fares.

Meanwhile, if you live in London, the older person's

Many retailers offer loyalty scheme bonuses for over-60s

Freedom Pass gives you free travel across the city from age 66, and free local bus journeys nationally.

If you are over 60, not yet eligible for a Freedom Pass and live in London, the 60+ Oyster pass allows free travel on buses, Tube, tram, DLR, London Overground and most National Rail services in the capital.

Shopping

As the cost of food rockets, you will want to do what you can to save on your grocery shop.

The supermarket chain Iceland offers those aged 60-plus a 10% discount in-store every Tuesday, with no minimum spend. You will need to show proof of age to claim.

Many retailers also offer loyalty scheme bonuses for this age group. For example, if you have a Boots Advantage card, you can earn eight points (compared with four) for every £1 spent on Boots-branded products.

You can also get free NHS prescriptions if you are over 60, provided you complete the back of the prescription form, and you may be asked for proof of age.

Home and pets

Rest Less, the digital community for those in their 50s, 60s and beyond, offers a range of discounts to members. These include 50% off a year's membership with TrustedHousesitters, a website that matches people with pet sitters.

The charity Dogs Trust offers half-price membership for the over-60s (£12.50 a year instead of £25). Membership gives you 24-hour access to a phone line for advice from qualified vets.

If you are on a low income and over 60, you may be able to use the charity Age UK's handyman scheme. This gives you access to free or discounted repairs and other services.



Listen to the stories behind the headlines

The Guardian Podcasts

Follow Guardian journalists Nosheen Iqbal and Michael Safi on Today in Focus as they take a deep dive into one story that's shaping the world, every weekday.

Listen wherever you get your podcasts

Listen on:

Apple Podcasts | Google Podcasts | Spotify | Listen on amazon music



◀ **Saltfleet, Lincolnshire**
£650,000

This Grade II-listed manor house, currently a B&B, has many a claim to fame. Oliver Cromwell stayed there, it inspired a Tennyson poem and, between the first and second world wars, it became a museum. Although renovated over the years, many period features have been retained and the kitchen is worthy of The Great British Bake Off which returns to Channel 4 next week. It has a farmhouse feel with a dark blue Aga and crockery hanging from the ceiling. Saltfleet has a sandy beach, where visitors can pick samphire. *Savills, 01522 508 908*



Fantasy house hunt
Homes with great kitchens

Compiled by Anna White

▶ **Wooler, Northumberland**
£900,000

This small town is on the edge of the Northumberland national park, in the foothills of the Cheviot hills. It is a base for walkers and has plenty of hostels, hotels and pubs to support its tourism trade. Woodside is a five-bedroom, three-bathroom modern villa, in the heart of the town, with a verandah, set in 0.6 hectares (1.6 acres) of terraced lawns. The classic kitchen has a granite-topped island under a huge skylight, but the true centrepiece is the black electric Aga in front of an exposed brick wall. There is an annexe for guests. *Finest Properties, 01434 622 234*



▲ **Bakewell, Derbyshire**
£350,000

Only a scone's throw from the Old Original Bakewell Pudding Shop is this Grade II-listed one-bedroom house. It is part of what was the town's watermill. The building was an antique shop before being converted into seven homes in 1992. The kitchen is plasterboard pink, with ink blue and white cabinetry. The same blue highlights panelling up the staircase to the bedroom. *Inigo, 020 3687 3071*

▼ **Nunhead, London**
£1.63m

Extensive renovation has transformed a Victorian parlour into a large, sociable kitchen. Three skylights illuminate the sitting room element of the open-plan space. A glazed pivot door opens on to a granite path that leads to a garden studio. The four bedroom home is spread over three floors, plus there is a cellar. Nunhead station is a five-minute walk away. *The Modern House, 020 3795 5920*



◀ **Hill Wootton, Warwickshire**
£2m

Behind a buttressed wall, in a quiet hamlet between Kenilworth, Warwick and Leamington Spa (all a five-minute drive away), is grand 19th century Hill Wootton House. In the grounds of this six-bedroom, five-bathroom property there is a swimming pool, tennis court and paddock. Enthusiastic bakers may find it hard to drag themselves away from the open-plan kitchen/family room, with granite surfaces for rolling pastry, full-height cupboards and a pantry. Hill Wootton is close to Leek Wootton and the Anchor Inn. *Mr and Mrs Clarke, 07880 731 580*



Retirement Planning *checklist*

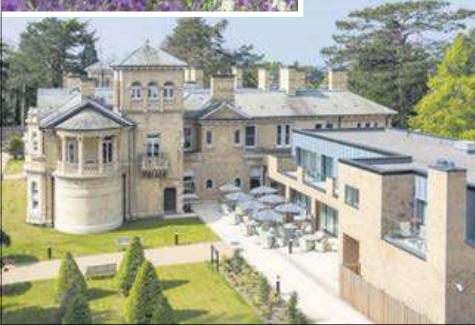
Plan for your retirement with our round-up of the best Will writing services, luxury investments, financial advice and retirement living options

Read more online! Visit checklists.co.uk and follow    @checklistsocial

Book your home visit – Enterprise Retirement Living will come to you



Retirement villages Mount Battenhall in Worcester and The Red House in Ripon



have a dedicated sales team who understand that the purchase of your next home is an important decision, especially when this is undertaken later in life.

Their friendly team are trained to help you understand the process and simplify the form filling by assisting you in the comfort of your own surroundings. They will even bring the tea and biscuits. Enterprise Retirement Living welcome you to book a sit-down chat to discuss potentially moving to one of their retirement villages.

They can have an honest conversation, listen to your needs and address all your questions or concerns. Following this, if retirement living could be for you, a visit to one of their stunning retirement villages can be arranged.

Contact the team today at info@erl.uk.com, call 0800 118 2062 or visit erl.uk.com to find out more.



Exceptional care for veterans and their partners

Royal Star & Garter are a charity that provide loving, compassionate care to veterans and their partners living with disability or dementia. Their homes in Solihull, Surbiton and High Wycombe offer specialist residential care.

At the heart of their values lies the desire to ensure each person lives life to the full. Their team support people with 24-hour care that is tailored to their individual needs, wishes and abilities. Their Wellbeing Programme focuses on bringing fun and joy to every day, with a wide range of activities, outings and exercise.

Every bedroom is spacious, tastefully decorated and comes with en-suite facilities. There are beautiful gardens for all to enjoy and delicious meals served in comfortable dining rooms. Royal Star & Garter homes are designed to be welcoming and they support people to feel engaged, valued and loved.



Get in touch to find out more about life in one of their homes. Visit starandgarter.org or email info@starandgarter.org

The Royal Star & Garter Homes trading as Royal Star & Garter. Registered Charity no. 210119. Registered office: 15 Castle Mews, Hampton, TW12 2NP

Secure your assets now with a free Will

Writing a Will is an essential task for anyone who wants to protect their assets.

You can create your own Will online in 10 minutes. This gives you peace of mind for the rest of your life, all while avoiding costly solicitor fees, and an expert team are on hand to ensure there are no legal errors.

Wills.services produce thousands of Wills every month and every Will is legally checked. Wills.Services are offering a free basic single Will to readers with code FREE22.



Start the process now by visiting wills.services/free22



Why writing a Will is so important



If you do not have a Will, the rules of intestacy will decide what happens to your estate, and this may not be what you would have wanted. Whether you need to write a Will, or need to review and update an existing Will, you should speak to a fully trained and insured member of The Society of Will Writers to receive friendly, professional, and up-to-date advice.



Call the office today on 01522 687888 or visit willwriters.com to find a member in your area.

Keeping your retirement goals on track amid the cost-of-living crisis

With soaring inflation threatening to derail consumers' long-term finances, here are five top tips to ensure your retirement goals remain on course.

Tip 1: Review existing provision. Reviewing your current provision annually will provide a clear vision of what you can expect in the future and help to avoid any nasty shocks further down the line.

Tip 2: Consider consolidating. Merging multiple pensions into a single plan can bring several benefits. You can reduce admin, widen your investment options, and lower your investment charges.

Tip 3: Avoid child benefit tax charge. Child benefit entitlement reduces once your annual income exceeds £50,000. But by paying into a pension, you can get the dual benefit of saving tax and keeping child benefit payments.

Tip 4: Think about an annuity. Buying a guaranteed, regular income for life can bring the peace of mind that you can fund your lifestyle no matter how long you live.

Tip 5: Seek financial advice. There really is no substitute for expert help. A regulated financial adviser will use their skills and experience to help you achieve the specific retirement you want.



If you're looking for information and advice, unbiased.co.uk is here to help. They have a handy pension calculator tool to work out how much you should be putting away each month, plus content with up-to-date advice and guidance on all areas of retirement planning.



Be a 'glass half full' kind of investor



You've heard the phrase 'ages like a fine wine' – but what about a fine whiskey? At London Cask Company, they combine a passion for Irish whiskey with a desire to share not just the taste but the value of this great physical commodity, stirred together with the right amount of support and guidance from their team of professional whiskey portfolio managers and suppliers.

They believe that the experience of investing in a cask of whiskey can be richly rewarding and that you shouldn't have to be a seasoned connoisseur or an investment expert to enjoy the benefits. There's something special about owning your own cask of rare whiskey, with

investors increasingly drawn to the experience this type of investment brings, from selecting their whiskey to trialling, tasting, and selling their asset on when the time is right.

Whether you buy for yourself, as a corporate gift, for a loved one, or for future generations, whiskey offers a unique experience to every individual. When you invest in whiskey, you hold a tangible asset which is yours to use as you please – you can buy and sell quickly (if the market allows) or hold onto your whiskey as it matures.

Visit londoncaskco.com to find out more.

All investments present the risk of loss of capital to the investor. Past and current performance does not imply that future trends will follow the same or similar pattern.



It's a first class feeling...

The all-new Sealy Posturepedic mattress offers a patented support system that's unique from top to toe, for a sleep that's best in class.

We truly believe this is the only mattress that delivers the genuine support and true comfort that everyone can feel. And a Sealy Posturepedic Mattress is built to be trustworthy and durable - night after night... year after restful year.

So however you sleep, sleep Sealy Posturepedic.



Posturepedic

The Heart and Soul of Sleep



The world in review, every week



Features

Global
report

Opinion

50% off for 3 months

Standard monthly price	Offer monthly price	Saving
£13.75	£6.89	50%

When you open the Guardian Weekly, you aren't just opening a magazine - you're opening up the way you see the world. Subscribe today to gain a global view that looks beyond political agendas, and at the bigger picture. Take your time over handpicked articles from the Guardian and Observer, delivered for free wherever you are in the world. **Subscribe today and get 50% off for 3 months, for a limited time only.**



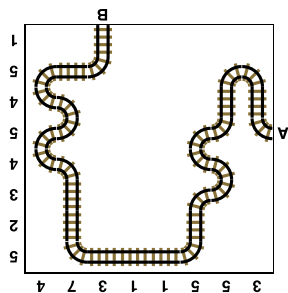
Visit theguardian.com/gw-truss
or scan the QR code



The
GuardianWeekly

Offer is 50% off the monthly subscription for 3 months, followed by a monthly subscription payment of £13.75 per month. Currency and price will vary outside these regions. Offer not available to current subscribers of Guardian Weekly. You must be 18+ to be eligible for this offer. You must purchase a new Guardian Weekly monthly subscription by 11:59pm GMT on 31/09/2022 to be eligible for this offer. Offer subject to availability. Guardian Weekly reserves the right to end this offer at any time. Offer details correct at the time of printing. For offer terms and conditions visit <https://subscribe.theguardian.com/p/TRUSS50/terms> and for full subscription terms and conditions visit theguardian.com/guardian-weekly-subscription-terms-conditions.

Solutions



Train tracks

INFLAMMING
Word wheel

1	4	2	1	3	1
3	5	3	4	2	5
1	2	1	5	1	4
4	5	3	2	3	2
3	1	4	1	4	1
4	2	3	2	3	2

နမူနာ

[illegible]

Code word

2				1	3	2	
1	4	2		5	9	4	1
8	9	3	5		9	1	2
9	7	2	3	8	6		
4	8		2	6	1	3	
7	6		4	8	6	9	4
	5	7		9	8	4	2
		5	6	7	9	8	3
5	8	6	7		7	9	1
9	7	8			6	8	9

как

16	27	23				29	15	14	
23				30		24			
16					29				
39					33				
6			17			12			
13			18				13		30
	4			8			12		
				17			6		
	3	4	36						
16					25				
6						7			

	2				
4					
			4		5
1					



B

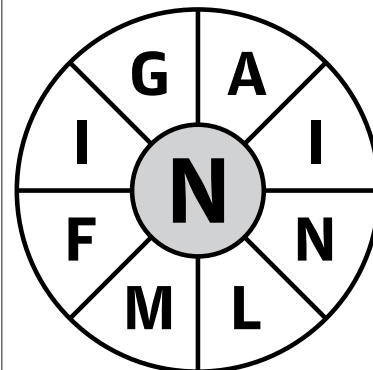
17		18		23		24	7	8		15		3		5	
1	4	10	23	13	8	9		3	19	13	21	21	22	4	
1		13		24		15		17		25		7		22	
22	2	8	22	25	23		17	4	8	13	3	8	13	1	
3				13		8				1				14	
3	5	13	11	8	19	9		24	4	R	A	N	23	15	17
		1		9		21		17		20		13			24
4	10	13	25		23	13	16	16	9		7	25	1		22
22		25		19		25		22		21		24			
26	7	24	24	13	25	24		20	10	4	23	7	1		14
22				20				7		7					13
1	7	25	6	22	4	3	22		7	10	8	4	10		25
8		22		4		7		5		23		17			23
22	2	17	1	8	19	9		12	22	19	21	11	10		19
23		8		9		17	24	7		9		8			9

~~A~~ B C D E F G H I J K L M ~~N~~ O P Q ~~R~~ S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4 R	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 A	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25 N	26

You can access more than 15,000 crosswords and sudoku and solve puzzles online together. Download The Guardian Puzzles app and try it for free now.
theguardian.com/puzzlesapp

Find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each must use the central letter and at least two others. Letters may be used only once. You may not use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. There is at least one nine-letter word to be found. TARGET: Excellent-29. Good-24. Average-18.



Puzzles

Quick crossword no 16,332

- Across
- 1 Games' flame carrier (7,5)

9 Proper (5)

10 Government head (7)

11 Part of speech (4)

12 Former love? (3,5)

14 Fungus – I'm lewd (anag) (6)

15 For free (6)

18 Last drink of the day? (8)

20 One whose word cannot be trusted (4)

22 Dangers (7)

23 Old tax to support Church and clergy (5)

24 Gymnastic apparatus (8,4)
- Down
- 2 Joke to make somebody believe what isn't true (3-4)

3 Hand – glove (4)

4 Transfix (6)

5 Rent-free (anag) – tropical plant with a thick woody stem and a crown of large fronds (4,4)

6 Indian side dish of yogurt, chopped cucumber and spices (5)

7 Central London road with many a doctor's consulting rooms (6,6)

8 Negotiating tactic of making credible threats in the hope of winning concessions (12)

13 Either of two large chest muscles (8)

16 Social media messaging service (7)

17 Bother (6)

19 One who looks (into space?) for ages (5)

21 Counterfoil (4)

	1	2		3		4		5		6		7
8												
9						10						
11					12							
				13								
14						15			16			
						17						
18		19							20			
								21				
22								23				
24												

Yesterday's Quick crossword

Solution no 16,331

D	E	P	U	T	Y		H	U	B	R	I	S
A		A		W		M		N		A		E
M	A	N	K	I	N	I		F	U	D	G	E
A		D		N		S		I		I		R
S	L	A	N	T		A	U	T	O	C	U	E
K				U	N					A		D
	R	U	G	B	Y	T	A	C	K	L	E	
S		M				H		Y				S
L	O	B	S	T	E	R		C	R	O	U	P
A		R		H		O		L		D		O
C	R	A	Z	E		P	R	O	B	O	N	O
K		G		M		E		P		U		K
S	W	E	D	E	N		A	S	T	R	A	Y

 **Stuck?** For help call **0906 200 83 83**. Calls cost £1.10 per minute, plus your phone company's access charge. Service supplied by ATS. Call **0330 333 6946** for customer service (charged at standard rate). Want more? Get access to more than 4,000 puzzles at theguardian.com/crossword. To buy puzzle books, visit www.guardianbookshop.com or call **0330 333 6846**.

Sandwich sudoku

Medium

Place the digits from 1-9 in each row, column and 3x3 block. The clues outside the grid show the sum of the numbers placed between the 1 and 9 in that row or column.

		1				0
	9	8	3			26
7						25
	9			5		0
		8			3	14
						2
					4	7
			8	9	6	6
			6			0
15	22	0	21	15	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Chris Maslanka Solutions

1 You do rather expect a degree of care from broadcasters at such a solemn time and trust them to make an effort to articulate well the title of our late Queen's father, if only for decorum's sake. Criticism has been heard of her diction but at least Pedanticus could always hear and relish every syllable! Still, you can at last discern from these old BBC recordings how things have "deteriated". As for Sirius A, the author seems not to have appreciated the difference between "two times more massive" (i.e. 3 times as massive) and "twice as massive". **2** Suppose $1/x + 1/y = 1/p$, where x and y are positive integers and p is a prime. Then $xy - p(x+y) = 0$; that is, $(x-p)(x-y) = p^2$. Then $(x-p) = p = (y-p)$ (leading to the symmetrical solution $x = 2p = y$;

or $(x-p) = 1$ and $(y-p) = p^2$ [or vice versa]; so $x = p+1$ and $y = p^2+p = p(p+1)$. Checking in this case: $1/(p+1) + 1/[p(p+1)] = 1/p$. Note: If p were not prime we'd have more than 2 factors and so more than two solutions. **3** The prime is 5. The square is 16. [This is easiest by trial and error, but here's a proof. Let the prime be p and the square be S^2 . Then $3p+1 = S^2$, so $3p = (S-1)(S+1)$. Now if $3p = (S-1)$ then $S+1 = 1$, giving $S = 0$, so that won't do. If $3p = (S+1)$, then $S-1 = 1$, whence $S = 2$. If $S = 2$, then $3p = (2-1)(2+1) = 3$ and $p = 1$. That won't do as 1 is not prime. However, if $S-1 = 3$ and $S+1 = p$, we have $S = 4$ and $p = 5$, leading to $3 \times 5 = (4-1)(4+1)$ and $p = 15$, which is one less than 4^2 .] **4** $5/8$. [Let the outer square have unit side; then, subtracting off the four triangles, A

$= 1 - 4 \times f(1-f)/2 = 2f^2 - 2f + 1$. A little judicious juggling shows $(f - 1/2)^2 = (A/2) - (1/4)$; the square of a real number is positive and so $A/2 - 1/4 \geq 0$, whence $A \geq 1/2$. One way to visualise this is by inscribing a circle in the outer square. As the inner square rotates its diagonal is limited by $EE' \geq PP'$.

5 $54321 \times 99945 = 5429112345$. **Wordplay:** **Wordpool** b), d), b); **Dropouts** TAFFETA; **EPU** GLADIATOR; **3-4-5** URN, OHMS, SMITH; **CB** In her rocksack; **Missing Links** a) garden/party/hat, b) saluting/station/master, c) spy/plane/tree, d) sword/fish/cake, e) small/holding/pattern, f) page/ant/acid.

Little Warrior

Johana Gómez, a young Venezuelan boxing champion, sets her sights on escaping poverty with the help of Edinburgh-based trainer, Gary Young.



Scan the QR code or watch now at theguardian.com/documentaries



Weather

Saturday 10 September 2022

UK and Ireland Noon today

Sunny

Mist

Fog

Sunny intervals

Hazy

Mostly cloudy

Overcast/dull

Sunny showers

Sunny and heavy showers

Light showers

Rain

Sleet

Light snow

Snow showers

Heavy snow

Ice

Thundery rain

Thundery showers

Temperature, °C

Wind speed, mph

Windy

35C

30

25

20

15

10

5

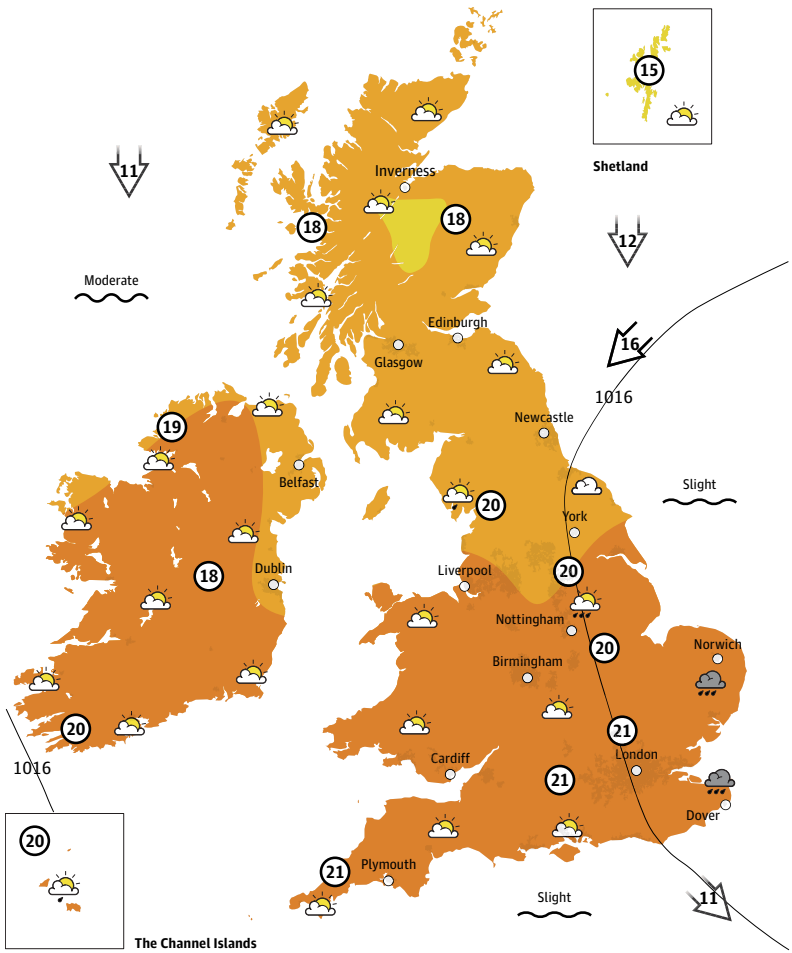
0

-5

-10

-15

-20



Forecast

Low 12 High 20

Tomorrow

Low 15 High 21

Monday

Carbon count

Daily atmospheric CO₂ readings from Mauna Loa, Hawaii (ppm):

Latest

06 Sep 2022 416.23

Weekly average

28 Aug 2022 416.54

09 Sep 2021 412.83

09 Sep 2012 392.02

Pre-industrial base 280

Safe level 350

Source: NOAA-ESRL

Around the UK

London

Lows and highs

13 21

Precipitation

40%

Air pollution

Low

Manchester

Lows and highs

12 20

Precipitation

25%

Air pollution

Low

Edinburgh

Lows and highs

9 17

Precipitation

5%

Air pollution

Low

Belfast

Lows and highs

11 19

Precipitation

0%

Air pollution

Low

Birmingham

Lows and highs

11 20

Precipitation

25%

Air pollution

Low

Brighton

Lows and highs

13 21

Precipitation

25%

Air pollution

Low

Bristol

Lows and highs

13 20

Precipitation

5%

Air pollution

Low

Cardiff

Lows and highs

14 20

Precipitation

5%

Air pollution

Low

Newcastle

Lows and highs

9 17

Precipitation

45%

Air pollution

Low

Penzance

Lows and highs

15 19

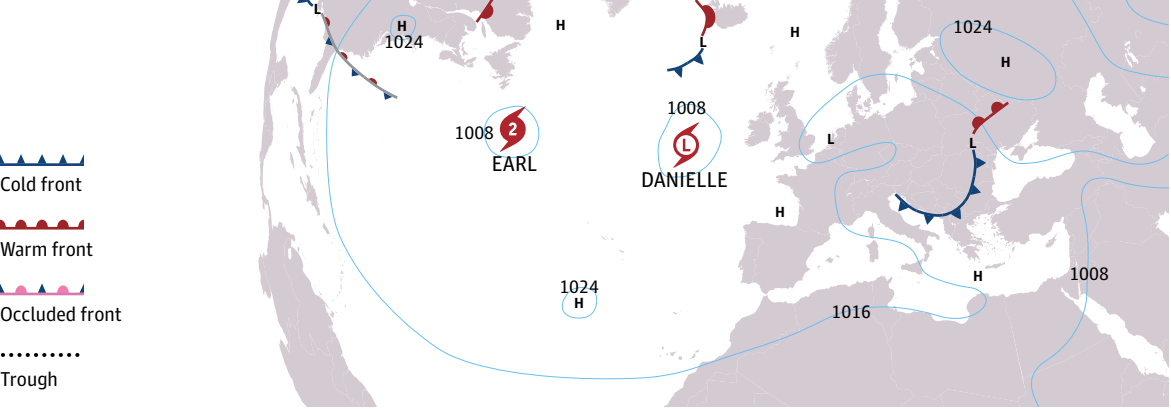
Precipitation

25%

Air pollution

Low

Atlantic front



High tides

Aberdeen	0143	4.4m	1424	4.4m
Avonmouth	0800	13.3m	2020	13.9m
Barrow	--	--	1217	9.2m
Belfast	--	--	1154	3.4m
Cobh	0605	4.0m	1828	4.3m
Cromer	0702	5.2m	1949	5.1m
Dover	--	--	1158	6.8m
Dublin	--	--	1232	4.0m
Galway	0550	5.2m	1804	5.5m
Greenock	0052	3.5m	1326	3.3m
Harwich	0009	4.1m	1227	4.1m
Holyhead	1110	5.6m	2318	6.0m
Hull	0643	7.7m	1933	7.6m
Leith	0257	5.7m	1532	5.8m
Liverpool	--	--	1200	9.4m

London Bridge	0225	7.2m	1448	7.0m
Lossiemouth	0009	4.2m	1254	4.2m
Milford Haven	0659	7.0m	1917	7.4m
Newquay	0550	7.0m	1808	7.4m
North Shields	0349	5.2m	1629	5.2m
Oban	0641	3.8m	1855	4.3m
Penzance	0524	5.4m	1741	5.8m
Plymouth	0635	5.4m	1848	5.7m
Portsmouth	--	--	1213	4.8m
Southport	1141	9.1m	2353	9.5m
Stornoway	0742	4.8m	1946	5.3m
Weymouth	0656	1.3m	1908	1.5m
Whitby	0426	5.7m	1703	5.7m
Wick	--	--	1218	3.5m
Workington	--	--	1218	8.3m

Sun & Moon

Sun rises

0627

Sun sets

1926

Moon rises

1954

Moon sets

0559

Full Moon

10 Sept

AccuWeather.com

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather ©2022

Lighting up

Belfast	1954 to 0650
Birm'ham	1934 to 0634
Brighton	1926 to 0630
Bristol	1937 to 0639
Carlisle	1941 to 0636
Cork	2000 to 0702
Dublin	1953 to 0652
Glasgow	1949 to 0642
Harlech	1944 to 0643
Inverness	1949 to 0638
London	1926 to 0628
M'chester	1937 to 0636
Newcastle	1937 to 0632
Norwich	1922 to 0622
Penzance	1947 to 0652

Weather tracker

The heatwave in the US has continued this week. Salt Lake City in Utah logged record-breaking September temperatures every day, with each day hotter than the last. The new September record is now 107F or 41.7C, which is also the all-time record for Salt Lake City.

Farther south, the tropical storm off the west coast of Mexico developed into a category 2 hurricane, and was named Hurricane Kay. It brought intense flooding up the west coast, from Oaxaca to Nayarit by Thursday. In the last 48 hours Kay has weakened into a tropical storm, but continues to bring extreme rain in its path. The remnants of the hurricane are expected to reach closer to California than any other since Hurricane Nora in 1997.

In South America there was a short wave of intense heat, unusual for early spring. From Uruguay up to Paraguay and southern Bolivia, temperatures reached up to 10C above the climatological average on Thursday. Maximum temperatures reached the mid to high-30s celsius, but were very short-lived compared with the heatwave in the US. In some areas temperatures fell to a comparatively chilly 19C yesterday.

Azure Prior Metdesk

Around the world

Algiers	32	Lisbon	29
Ams'dam	20	Madrid	33
Athens	32	Malaga	28
Auckland	16	Melb'rne	15
B Aires	16	Mexico C	23
Bangkok	31	Miami	33
Barcelona	27	Milan	26
Basra	46	Mombasa	28
Beijing	31	Moscow	13
Berlin	21	Mumbai	31
Bermuda	29	N Orleans	30
Brussels	19	Nairobi	23
Budapest	24	New Delhi	34
C'hagen	19	New York	29
Cairo	34	Oslo	13
Cape Town	18	Paris	21
Chicago	28	Perth	20
Corfu	30	Prague	18
Dakar	29	Reykjavik	15
Dhaka	31	Rio de J	31
Dublin	18	Rome	28
Florence	28	Shanghai	29
Gibraltar	26	Singapore	29
H Kong	31	Stockh'm	14
Harare	28	Strasb'g	19
Helsinki	15	Sydney	21
Istanbul	28	Tel Aviv	31
Jo'burg	27	Tenerife	29
K Lumpur	32	Tokyo	28
K'mandu	27	Toronto	28
Kabul	30	Vancouv'r	23
Kingston	32	Vienna	22
Kolkata	31	Warsaw	19
L Angeles	26	Wash'ton	28
Lagos	28	Well'ton	15
Lima	17	Zurich	17

You can't put
a price on taste.
But you can get
a 43% discount.



While the Guardian and Observer continue to bring you world-defining moments from culture, politics, sport and more - fresh lifestyle ideas won't cost you the earth. **Subscribers to our award-winning newspapers and magazines can save up to 43% off the cover price.**



Subscribe today at
theguardian.com/paper-subscribe

Limited time offer					
Package	Newsstand price per month	Subscription rate	Limited time offer price	Saving	
Every day	£84.50	£55.99	£48.15	43%	
Six day	£69.33	£47.99	£43.19	37%	
Weekend	£30.33	£22.99	£20.69	31%	
Saturday	£15.17	£12.99	£11.69	22%	
Sunday	£15.17	£12.99	£11.69	22%	

Prices above are monthly. Savings calculated are savings made per month against the retail price.

The Guardian | TheObserver

With views like his, the reign of King Charles III won't be dull *Simon Jenkins, page 3*

The Elizabethan age, like the past, is now another country *Ian Jack, page 4*

Who will keep the royal soap opera going? *Stephen Bates, page 5*

The Guardian **Saturday 10 September 2022**

The death of
Queen Elizabeth II

Journal

The tides of public feeling flow
- where will they carry us?

Queen Elizabeth II famously heard of her father's death and her accession to the throne on a royal visit to Kenya. Preparing to return to London - Winston Churchill was privately fretting that the new monarch was 'only a child' - her

Marina
Hyde



spoken thoughts were for the retinue who had accompanied her to Kenya. She told one lady-in-waiting: "I've ruined everybody's trip." As far as her father's death and its vast consequences for the rest of her natural life were concerned, her husband's private secretary thought "her feelings were deep, deep inside her". And there they, and almost all her other feelings, would stay for the next seven decades.

The British people's feelings are another matter. The country has a complex relationship with its emotions. I always think politicians and many of our institutions are most frightened of the public having emotions. Perhaps they have a vested interest in portraying emotions as a kind of weakness, lying as they do in some uncharted realm beyond their control. The display of emotions is frequently regarded as a defeat. They are something to which we "give in". It suits many people for us not to do so. And yet, why? Is this in our interests or theirs? Maybe we already know the answer.

The emotional moment of the Queen's death is only just beginning but will be far-reaching; its short-, medium- and long-term implications are fascinatingly - and for some, frighteningly - unpredictable. Not for everyone, of course - and there are many different

emotions bubbling up. But the Queen's long and constant chapter has closed at a moment of great uncertainty and gathering struggle for the country she reigned over for 70 years.

It feels noteworthy that of her 15 prime ministers, four of them have turned up for audiences with her in the past six years alone. She was widely held to have embodied virtues whose absence in public life is increasingly evident. For some time, there has been a growing sense that the wheels are coming off all sorts of different machines - a feeling that we may not be watching the end of a season but the end of the whole series.

Will the emotion remain, in that telling phrase, "in its place"? The outpouring of emotion that followed the death of Diana was a landmark moment. In her lifetime, Diana had been regarded as a dangerous subversive for saying things such as "I lead from the heart, not the head." After her death, politicians and institutions looked at the display of emotion and appeared anxious to channel it appropriately, whatever that means. And, ultimately, to put a lid on it as soon as possible.

There is a very interesting Mass Observation paper that seeks to explore

*
Marina Hyde:
live in
Manchester
Join Marina
at the Royal
Northern
College of Music
on 4 October.
Book tickets at
theguardian.
com/guardianlive



2
The tides of public feeling flow
- where will they carry us?

Marina Hyde

← Continued from front

and caveat the idea that the nation in the wake of Diana’s death was “united in grief”, as the newspapers took daily pains to assure it.

In those heady days, though people may now choose to forget it, the supposedly unemotional Queen and her family were cast as the villains. “SHOW US YOU CARE” was the Daily Express’s front-page order to the sovereign to leave off from comforting her bereaved grandsons at Balmoral and respond to public emotion. “A private crisis had become a public one,” wrote the historian Ben Pimlott, “even though nobody knew what it was about.” The Queen’s eventual return to London and public address to the nation were hailed as a victory for people power. As the Mirror had it: “YOU SPOKE, THEY LISTENED”. Or to put it in the parlance of our time: she sees you.

As the Mass Observation study shows, the true picture was more complicated, but the spectacle of mass grief - mass anger, mass hysteria, mass anything - had clearly spooked and unnerved many people. Thereafter, those who subsequently described public reactions to other events as a “Diana moment” sought to be disparaging, yet unwittingly conveyed a thinly disguised terror at the power of public emotions and where that sort of thing could end.

he behaviour of people on both sides of the EU referendum was cast by many on the opposing side as emotionally led, and consequently to be looked down upon. Those who voted to leave were deemed by many of those who hadn’t to have made an emotional decision, which was therefore bad. In the immediate aftermath of the result, the emotional reaction of those who had voted to remain was denigrated by, among others, Boris Johnson. “There is, among a section of the population, a kind of hysteria,” he decided, “a contagious mourning of the kind that I remember in 1997 after the death of the Princess of Wales.” Back in 1997 itself, Johnson had judged the country had gone mad, accusing people of a “Latin American peasant hagiolatry”.

After the death of the Queen, we may now be on the brink of what Johnson once thought was “contagious mourning”, but what many others would see as something entirely more profound - and still others as something provocative or alienating or rooted in changing historical currents we have yet to understand. But what is clear is that it is coming at a time of rapidly establishing flux and peril. A poll this week found 61% of 18- to 34-year-olds supported running the UK with “a strong leader who doesn’t have to bother with parliament/ elections”. Away from the noise of the formalised news cycle, it has felt for some time as though all sorts of emotions and impulses are surging. The country is on strange tides.

There is, of course, an obverse of collective sadness, which comes from the same place. The great Barbara Ehrenreich, who died last week, wrote a whole history of collective joy, in which she detailed the age-old creation - and suppression - of mass celebrations that allow us to let go of ourselves completely. From pagan rituals to medieval dance manias to rock concerts, the communal ecstasy felt by participants is therapeutic. But this spontaneity is disapproved of by those with power, and very often regarded as something to be put down or stamped out. It stems from that fear of collective consciousness, of people being part of something - of *feeling* part of something - not in the rational sphere. Time and again, the authorities work hard to disperse the participants and return them to their atomised state.

This was what happened with collective grief in the wake of Diana’s death, even if it wasn’t universal. The public reaction to the Queen’s death began the moment it was announced. But the reaction to that reaction will be part of the story; and both are deeply significant, and only just beginning to unfold.

The Guardian

Founded 1821 Independently owned by the Scott Trust N^o 54,759
‘Comment is free... but facts are sacred’ CP Scott

Monarchy

Charles III will write a new chapter in history and MPs should be involved

This week saw a new UK prime minister, Liz Truss, and a new monarch, King Charles III. Neither are unfamiliar figures but they arrive in profoundly unsettling times. The death of Queen Elizabeth II removes a rock upon which many private lives were tethered. This source of stability was not down to her as an individual but to what she has represented in different moments in British history. She had been there to say and do the right thing at the right time. The Queen was part of the living memory of several generations. Her meaning came from what she embodied to people.

Her inscrutability and dedication to duty will see her remembered as one of Britain’s greatest monarchs. Her Majesty kept her own counsel. King Charles III is a very different proposition. The public knows a lot about his views, his interests and what he thinks is important. He has both reactionary and reforming opinions. His infamous “black spider” letters revealed the then heir apparent to be lobbying MPs, ministers and even the prime minister. His speech, just a day after his mother’s death, is a departure in itself. When George VI died suddenly in 1952, the young Elizabeth was in Kenya and returned saying nothing - starting her reign as she meant to continue.

But the Prince of Wales was a largely unregulated position with few constitutional duties. King Charles no doubt understands that the survival of the monarchy depends on reinforcing democracy rather than appearing to threaten it. However, the crown has far more constitutional power than is commonly

recognised. The royal family can significantly influence the government behind closed doors before final decisions in parliament are made. The device used to do this, as the Guardian revealed last year, was Queen’s - now King’s - consent. Ministers will normally acquiesce to the sovereign’s will rather than cause a political crisis.

Charles III will have to be both head of the nation, and speak for and to the country as a whole. Whatever his personal views, he cannot take polarising positions. To do so risks becoming a divisive rather than unifying figure. No king can be beholden to private interests. The new monarch must dispel concerns that lingered after the police investigation into allegations that honours were offered in exchange for charitable donations. His view that a slimmed-down monarchy better fits the temper of the times is to be welcomed.

Parliament alone has the power to legislate about the monarchy. The Guardian maintains, as Ms Truss once did, that the hereditary principle is no way to choose a head of state. But parliamentary action in relation to the monarchy has been limited. During the Queen’s reign there were only two major pieces of legislation; the last, in 2013, allowed both the sovereign’s sons and daughters to have equal right to the throne. There have been remarkably lengthy periods of parliamentary silence. That must change.

Charles III’s coronation, set for next year, cannot be a copy of his mother’s, a ceremony whose authority was derived from the Anglican church where the aristocracy paid homage to the crown. The past is another country. Should not parliament take advantage of this period to consider the constitutional and legal framework of the monarchy in a formal and measured manner? If done by a joint committee, no government would be beholden to its outcome. A chance to rethink rarely arises in a constitutional monarchy. A new king, and a new prime minister, ought to seize the opportunity.

Economics

Liz Truss’s energy price freeze is the right policy for the wrong reasons

Almost a decade ago, Conservatives thought that Labour’s proposed energy price freeze was part of the “Marxist universe” the party inhabited. Now the prime minister, Liz Truss, finds herself there. Labour and the Tories see eye-to-eye on the need for intervention in energy markets because of a dizzying surge in domestic energy bills. Not since the 1970s have politicians put themselves centre-stage in energy markets.

Freezing the average annual household energy bill at £2,500 from October is a good policy, but it is not good enough to prevent 6.7m homes finding themselves in fuel poverty. The answer would be to increase benefits, but Ms Truss is adverse to “handouts”. That said, her policy leaves bills £1,000 lower than what the regulator predicted. Businesses will get similar-sized help. The package is expected to reduce inflation by up to 5%.

The energy-price guarantee is the right policy for the wrong reasons. Many more households would be immiserated if energy costs were allowed to continue to spiral - threatening to turn recession into depression. The UK’s problem is that it is at the mercy of volatile international gas prices, which also set the cost of electricity. The solution is to use the breathing space afforded by freezing household bills for two years to improve energy efficiency and bring on greener sources of power generation. It also means reopening gas storage facilities that were closed in 2017 under a Tory government to limit the fluctuation of prices.

Instead, Ms Truss announced plans to review its promise to deliver its net zero target and gave the

green light to drill for oil and frack for gas. Local opposition and the lack of viable shale deposits means Ms Truss’s claim that gas could be flowing in six months is little more than wishful thinking. North Sea oil won’t help: from licensing to production takes an average of 28 years. While the prime minister did mention renewable energy, her emphasis on fossil fuels revealed the debt her leadership owes to rightwing Conservatives. The UK should not become more reliant on oil and gas. Burning fossil fuels has contributed to a drought in Europe this summer that left zero-carbon energy producers like hydro and nuclear without the water they need to run - thus worsening the continent’s energy crisis by increasing gas dependence at the worst possible time.

The prime minister’s refusal to say how much the largest fiscal rescue package since the second world war will cost highlights how revisionist a move this represents. Tories, since 1979, have rejected Keynesian economics - but Ms Truss is willing to reverse course because it suits her electorally. The prime minister has said she wants to stimulate the economy with tax cuts rather than public spending. Tories worry not about the debt but about the public’s desire for better healthcare, education and public transport. They fear that once voters get a taste for state spending, they won’t lose it.

Borrowing, say, £150bn would be the equivalent to more than two Covid furlough schemes. Making room for such a large amount of debt on the gilt markets probably requires slowing down the Bank of England’s quantitative tightening plans, which Ms Truss alluded to in her campaign to be Tory party leader. Government is the only actor able to borrow on this scale. However, a green transition should put the costs on to fossil fuel producers not consumers of energy. That means levying a windfall tax on excess fossil fuel profits, not higher green energy charges. The country could end up poorer largely because Ms Truss is in hock to the hard right of the Tory party.



With views like his, the reign of King Charles III won't be dull

Simon Jenkins



King Charles intends to reign - he would say serve - precisely as did his mother. His entire life has been spent in the shadow of her performance, and he has been tutored at every turn in the role of the occupant of the throne. He knows that the nation has regarded the Queen as the apotheosis of constitutional monarchy. His is unlikely to be a long reign, and he will not want to betray his mother's legacy.

At that point, any similarity between King Charles and Queen Elizabeth may well end. The reason is simple. The job of monarch today may be formulaic, indeed near-robotic, but it is nonetheless conducted by human beings. Charles is practised in the tedium of public duties, and shares his mother's capacity to moderate ritual with humour. Maturity has also diluted the risks of misbehaviour and gossip that attended his youth and unhappy first marriage. But mother and son are very different personalities.

This may matter only in the margins of the constitution, in the dealings that a king has of constitutional necessity with his prime minister and with the machinery of parliament. He is bound to respect the nonpartisan obligations of monarchy. The days are gone when the monarch might exercise discretion in "choosing" or "inviting" a prime minister most likely to enjoy parliamentary support.

This terminology can still deliver crises. The last occurred in 1963, when the Conservative party lacked a formal procedure for selecting a leader and a number of candidates put themselves forward to succeed the sick Harold Macmillan. In the event, he was well enough to recommend Lord Home as his successor, but this did not save the Queen from seeming to approve a secretive and oligarchic transfer of power.

Subsequent tensions have usually involved hung parliaments, as in 1974 under Edward Heath and in 2010 under Gordon Brown. Both were resolved through negotiations with palace officials under conventions of custom and practice. A different crisis arose when Boris Johnson in 2019 tried to involve the monarch in an illegal proroguing of parliament, to be overturned not by the monarch but by the supreme

King Charles III greets the crowds at Buckingham Palace yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH: JAMES VEYSEY /REX/SHUTTERSTOCK

The new king is a regal David Attenborough. Oh to be a fly on the wall in his weekly conversations with Liz Truss

court. In all these cases protocol kept the monarch aloof from controversy. But Charles may well feel entitled to play a more active role, where any element of constitutional discretion is involved, if only in concert with officials.

Different problems may well lie elsewhere, in the obvious fact that Charles has strong opinions on every subject under the sun. The arts in particular should be cheering his accession. Virtually alone among the royals, he is an ardent fan of music and the theatre. He would drive regularly and at breakneck speed from Highgrove to see the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford, of which he has been an active president.

Charles's most controversial interventions were in architecture in the 1980s. As an architectural writer, I was one of many called in to help him with speeches at the time, and I was left in no doubt about the fierceness of his commitment to the classical and vernacular traditions in art and design.

As for his comments on new buildings in Trafalgar Square and Chelsea, he would reasonably protest that he had no power over planning decisions, merely opinions, no different from the journalists who were advising him. It was the vigour of his language - of modernism as "carbuncular" - that was potent.

I find it hard to believe that as king, Charles will alter either his views or his readiness to advance them, though he would be scrupulous to do so in private. He would point out, as in his more recent "spider letters" to various ministries, that he makes no decisions. He is merely entitled to be "frightfully worried". While the climate crisis is in the lead, farming, horticulture, medicine, conservation and Shakespeare are all his concerns. He is a regal David Attenborough. Oh to be a fly on the wall of his weekly conversations with Liz Truss.

Mike Bartlett's 2014 play, *King Charles III*, portrayed Charles as refusing, on a point of conscience, to give royal assent to a bill passed by parliament ending press freedom. This presented the prime minister with a crisis: either pass an "illegal" bill or demand Charles's abdication. In the play, the latter occurred. A similar crisis hit Belgium in 1990, when King Baudouin refused to sign a pro-choice bill and was allowed to abdicate for a day. Bartlett's plot must at least have caused Charles a shiver of recognition.

Where the new monarch could unquestionably make a mark is in reforming the image of monarchy. Where Elizabeth was a stickler for tradition, Charles is known to want to relax and "informalise" the throne. He is rumoured to want to move out of Buckingham Palace, turning it into a royal office block and museum, keeping Clarence House as his London home.

The monarchy is a curiosity of history. It has supplied the state and the Commonwealth with a figurehead of remarkable stability. Its hereditary basis is defensible only in being elemental and in remaining scrupulously impotent. The monarchy is simply the expression in human form of national cohesion and supposed reverence. But it retains its stability and reverence through avoiding controversy. Britain's new king is an ostentatious controversialist. At very least, his reign is unlikely to be dull.

The Elizabethan age, like the past, is now another country

Ian Jack



In the six hours of television that had to be filled between the news of the Queen being comfortable and the Queen being dead, the BBC's Huw Edwards and Nicholas Witchell often reflected on how nobody could remember a time when she wasn't there unless they were more than 70 years old. I would put the age limit rather higher: 77 sounds about right. Her father died on 6 February 1952, the day before my seventh birthday. It would be wrong to say that I knew he was king or what a king did. It was his death that made me aware of him.

We lived in Lancashire then. I went to a school, Plodder Lane, where my teacher, Mr Boot, was having trouble making me understand that capital letters began sentences rather than every new line (though they seemed to do that in poetry). Plodder Lane, Mr Boot: Dickensian names such as these support the idea, often mentioned since

her death, that the Queen was crowned in a different country. It was.

That day, on our way home from school, another boy pointed out a flag flying halfway down a flagpole. "It's because the King's dead," he said. The flagpole stuck up from the roof of one of the town's several spinning mills - there were chimneys everywhere you looked. My dad worked in one of them. We had ration books and went on day trips by bus or train to the big seaside resorts; to complete the Lowry-esque cliché, a family in our street still went about bare-legged in clogs.

Were we loyal? I hardly think so. The monarchy seemed so invulnerable, so sacred and privileged, that it invited a private defiance from people who felt smothered by the obeisance shown it by the newspapers, the newsreels and the BBC. Dad scoffed at the memory of a neighbour in his boyhood who would talk about the dissolute King Edward VII as "good old Teddy"; Mum remembered how George VI and his wife were known by some in Scotland as "stuttering Georgie and grinning Lizzie". But this was a kind of secret insolence rather than off-with-their-heads republicanism. It was the oppressiveness - the uniformity of public opinion - that bred dissent, not so much the absurdity of the system as the rigorous fawning that went with it.

The days after the King's death typified this oppression. Cinemas and theatres closed; nothing came out of the radio but solemn music. The only visual memory I have comes from the pages of the Illustrated London News, which an aunt sent from London. The photographs - or perhaps they were drawings - showed the inside of what looked like a church heavily draped in black. By the time the coronation came, 16 months later, we had moved to Scotland - or moved back, in my parents' case.

Life shifted from monochrome to Technicolor, and not only metaphorically. Films of the ceremony and that year's other triumph, the conquest of Everest by a British team (if not in the end by actual Britons), made a double bill at the local cinema, with their colour a big selling point. My new comic, the Eagle, had colour printing far more sophisticated than the Beano or the Rover could achieve; one of its centre spreads showed

With the Queen's coronation and the conquest of Everest, life seemed to shift from monochrome to Technicolor

a cutaway of the ship, the SS Gothic, that would carry the new queen and her husband to Australia. And then there was the vibrant patriotism of the souvenirs - my snake-clasp belt striped in red, white and blue, gaudier than any other item of clothing I possessed.

We were encouraged to think of a new Elizabethan age, and in it the Queen cut rather a military figure, at least to my boyish eye. She rode straight-backed on horses, wore medals and inspected sailors and troops. When a coastguard station on a promontory near our house suddenly acquired a small battery of guns, we imagined them firing on a Russian fleet. But in fact they were saluting guns, which boomed when the new royal yacht carried the Queen into the Firth of Forth, and never, so far as I remember, boomed again. It may have been on the same visit that she went down a Fife coalmine in a white boilersuit and came up again with not a mark on it. Proof, said people like Dad, that the royal family never encountered anything that could be called real life - and think of the money wasted on the guns.

Nevertheless, when in 1964 the Queen came to open the road bridge across the Forth, my mother can be seen in photographs smiling in the crowd behind her. She had a good working knowledge of royal relationships - who was Alice and who was Marina and where the Duke of Gloucester fitted in. Like many people - like me - she lived with a kind of dualism that allowed the coexistence of scepticism and affection. Obviously, a hereditary monarchy was all "a load of nonsense" and its wealth offensive, but it was also familiar and interesting, and for those reasons attractive and, in the right hands, lovable.

But I can't be sure of the last word. Royalty and modern journalism - modern attitudes of all kinds - sit uneasily together. I went 40 years ago to a country house in Gloucestershire to interview Captain Mark Phillips, who was then married to Princess Anne, about his showjumping team. Of course, my interest in showjumping was spurious. I was there, my editor told me, to find some comedy in his situation. The piece was long, strained and unsuccessful, and the editor rightly put it on the spike. Now what I mainly remember is seeing Princess Anne in her kitchen pouring some breakfast cereal for her little son, and my surprise that it was Rice Krispies, the choice of so many quite ordinary human beings. Unconsciously, irrationally, I must have expected something more divine.

That kind of reverential superstition has disappeared. We know now that the Queen talked to little bears and liked to keep a marmalade sandwich in her handbag. She aged well. I began to feel we had things in common. When the royal yacht Britannia made her farewell visit to the capital in 1997, I went down to the Pool of London to wave my hat and see her off. She was such a beautiful ship, and the band of the Royal Marines played Sunset as the bascules of Tower Bridge opened to let her through: I was wet around the eyes. When I heard that the Queen cried too, I was not surprised.

Then this week came the final picture, the one with Liz Truss. My mother, who died at 94, had a similar black bruise on the back of her hand. The country we live in, the people we are - ultimately, we are so frail.



ILLUSTRATION: MATT KENYON



Who will keep the royal soap opera going?

Stephen Bates



Suddenly, one of the great plot lines of our island story peters out. What will replace it? For the best part of 20 years the media, not just in Britain but across the world, have been preparing discreetly for the death of the Queen, yet she still contrived to take us royal watchers by surprise.

There she was, on Tuesday, smiling and extending a hand to Liz Truss, her 15th prime minister, and dutifully enduring separate 40-minute conversations with both Truss and her predecessor, Boris Johnson, in her living room at Balmoral. She was looking perhaps a little frailer than we were used to and there were marks of a cannula, but otherwise no indication of how close to death she was. Duty still prevailed

until Wednesday's cancellation of a privy council meeting. Working to the end.

Other monarchs have died suddenly, falling off their horses (William the Conqueror, William III), sitting on the toilet (George II), murdered (Edward II), catching dysentery (Henry V) or even a quick dose of morphia to hasten the passing in time for an announcement in the morning papers (George V), but this is a modern media age where we don't expect to be taken by surprise.

So the central figure in the royal soap opera starred in this week's episode but can only be a reference in future scripts. On *The Archers* or *EastEnders* they know how to cope with actual or scripted death, and media editors know they have tributes and retrospectives aplenty to bulk out the plot. When Diana, Princess of Wales died 25 years ago, the tabloids feared that would be an end to filling their front pages with photographs of her, but somehow it didn't make any difference: people still bought papers with her on the front and the plot line still had strands to endure for the best part of a decade.

What now, then? Refinement, of course, but not a full rewrite: all the characters are well known. No convulsions: the monarchy doesn't like surprises, even if the media do, and there is no Camelot fairytale in the offing, not at least until young Prince George, now second in line to the throne, comes of age.

King Charles is rapidly approaching his mid-70s, but his mournful, equine face has been familiar for 60 years. Prince William, happily married this past decade, father of three and now heir, is 40, staid, reliable, unglamorous. "It's all very well," one royal photographer once said to me, "but at the end of the day, he's just another bald, middle-aged bloke in a suit."

Now two of the princes who were supposed to help share the burden of the plot have gone awol. Prince Andrew has self-destructed, left to spend more time with his golf clubs. Despite his pleas to be rehabilitated, that won't and can't happen if the family firm know what's good for it. He is a dead-end plot line: the creepy younger brother written out of the script.

Then there's trouble with Harry. The royals must have thought they had hit the jackpot when he married Meghan Markle, an American actor of mixed-race heritage - a series of plot lines all on its own. But that didn't last; instead she turned, for many British readers at least, into the wicked fairy: lobbing hand grenades at other members of the institution. Even that plot line is wearing thin, as the American-based cast members may now be learning. The royal brothers' feud remains promising, a source of drama and creative tension, but it will be difficult to sustain if they never see each other.

So who will take up the royal burden, the constant round of openings, walkabouts and visits, years of "Do you come here often?" and "What is it you do?" Princess Anne has been dutifully doing it for years - the busiest royal, year by year - but she's in her 70s. Prince Edward and Sophie Wessex began promisingly controversially 30 years ago, with his dropping out of the Marines and her inappropriate business links. They play the weak younger brother and the dull wife - but that's not exactly box office either. No audience was ever thrilled by the prospect of Edward opening a hospital wing.

So it has to be Charles and Camilla and William and Kate to carry on the plot. They will have to work harder: more lines, more scenes, an endless punishing schedule. The ratings must stay high, and the ratings depend on them.

*
Stephen Bates
is a former
Guardian royal
correspondent

The Queen leaves a void Britain will struggle to fill

Jonathan Freedland's article is a minor masterpiece: astute, tactful, with more distance than a simple obituary, a tribute that captures the essence of the place in British society of this distant, little-known, intensely private public person, whose very aloofness inspired affection (The second Elizabethan age is over. A new future begins, 9 September).

Born in 1954, I have only known Elizabeth as sovereign. Living in France, I have chosen a republic in preference to a constitutional monarchy. The British monarchy is, unwittingly, the linchpin of the social conservatism and sense of class that I fled 35 years ago - and that Boris Johnson and that privileged clique, astonishingly, continue to embody in 21st-century Britain.

And yet, on the evening of Queen Elizabeth II's death, I felt a genuine sadness at her passing and respect for her personal contribution to the country. My mother, two years older than the Queen, died in May, having lived through the unparalleled transfer of the world that Freedland describes so well. That personal perspective helps me appreciate what the Queen had to assimilate, in terms of change, and her ability to adapt her role as times changed. As Freedland says, she rarely initiated that change; but she navigated it astutely and - of course, within a framework of privilege and inherited wealth that is shocking - displayed qualities of dignity, devotion to duty and integrity from which many political leaders today could learn.

However, now she is gone. It's going to be strange and tough to get used to "King Charles III". And maybe we should not get used to it. The Queen's passing and the loss of this seemingly eternal reference point in the national consciousness are an opportunity for the country truly to take stock of our constitutional system - and to question the value of a constitutional monarchy and of a constitution based on convention. Gratitude to the individual who served her country so loyally should not prevent us from a genuine national debate about the best future set-up for the country.

Tim Stevens
Camaret-sur-Mer, France

● Polly Toynbee provides a sober meditation on the Queen that copes well with the tightrope walk between tribute and analysis (This is a time of both public and personal grief, 9 September). However, in trying to capture the essence of the special relationship

so many felt they had with the Queen, there's a wobble: "The magic of majesty is in its divine destiny." Even at this sensitive moment - perhaps especially so - it is important to remind ourselves that the unique position enjoyed by the monarchy is constitutionally, not divinely, ordained and succession is a political, not a spiritual, gift.

We have been extremely fortunate to have had a monarch whose personal attributes and conduct were held in such affection. The strength and even the meaning of the institution she represented depends upon the character and idiosyncrasies of its incumbents to a far greater extent than we like to admit - and we only have to imagine a personality with whom we are uncomfortable to test the value of a monarchy deriving its legitimacy from a constitution we can influence, rather than divinity in which we must have faith. Queen Elizabeth II was a blessing. She could just as easily have been a curse.

Paul McGilchrist
Colchester, Essex

When I heard the news, I had the strange feeling that I ought to call my sibling to tell them, as if it were our own mother

Carolyn Sutton

● At this sad time I have to recall 1953, and the Queen's coronation. My dear dad took my elder brother and me to London to experience it. "You may never see the like of this again," he said. He was nearly right. It poured with rain most of the day and I remember especially the moments: Churchill's horse, for example, starting to play up and the old man simply giving us the V for victory sign and moving on. A great occasion in many respects, and now we acknowledge King Charles III and another reign... *autres temps, autres mœurs*.

Antony Barlow
Wallington, Surrey

● I was born to English parents - we left England for Ireland in 1967, when I was 11. I very much agree with Jonathan Freedland's assessment that the Queen's death will shake Britain, and England in particular I suspect, very deeply. But I feel her death will impact much further afield, too. In a time of huge uncertainty, in which more than a few dangerous fools have

come to the fore, she was (perhaps despite her privilege as much as because of it) a calming presence. "Self-restraint, a conspicuous sense of duty and an old-fashioned work ethic" are much needed at the moment, to say nothing of what seemed to be a canny diplomacy and a genuine warmth of character.

I feel a sense of loss - more than I thought I would. Some of it is personal: what feels like a last link to that part of my childhood in England is gone. Some of it is political and rests in the hope that some of her qualities may be found in leaders of the present and the future.

Keith Troughton
Dublin, Ireland

● When the Queen died on Thursday, our mum, who died aged 94 eight years ago, died all over again. Born in 1920, six years older than the Queen, she shared her experience of living through the war, and also shared her sense of dignity, duty and service, and the great skill of listening - rather than talking, really listening. As I absorbed the news, I cried for my mum, for the Queen and for the loss of a generation from whom we have so much to learn.

Lesley Morrison
Peebles, Scottish Borders

● Polly Toynbee is spot-on in her article. When I heard the news, I had the strangest feeling that I ought to call my sibling to inform them, as if it were our own mother. I suddenly realised that in some way, a very strong mother figure has now left my life. The Queen occupied the extraordinary position of monarch, while, to many of us, also occupying a very personal place in our hearts and minds.

Carolyn Sutton
Glastonbury, Somerset

● On Thursday, my son took me to see the European Space Agency astronaut Tim Peake at Leicester's De Montfort Hall. Sadly, this birthday treat will be remembered not for Tim's riveting recollections, but because it was the day we lost our Queen. It was, and still is, difficult to believe that the modern Elizabethan era has come to an end. On the day the Queen was born in 1926, biplanes were taking to the skies, and on the last day of her life, the Nasa Artemis project was preparing to put astronauts back on the moon and onwards to Mars.

I hope there is a rocket man taking the Queen to be reunited with her beloved Prince Philip.

Gary Freestone
Leicester

● In life there are very few iconic leaders who surpass the parameters of a life they were born into; Queen Elizabeth II was one of those unique individuals who transcended their role. We will never forget her.

Daniel Kowbell
Mississauga, Canada

Cosmic rays

'Portland Bill lighthouse is 135 feet high and was completed in 1906. This is a blended image of three separate exposures'

HARVEY GRENVILLE/
GUARDIAN COMMUNITY

Do you have a photograph you'd like to share with Guardian readers? If so, visit theguardian.com/letters-pics to upload it, and we'll print the best ones on these pages

We do not publish letters where only an email address is supplied; please include a full postal address, a reference to the article and a daytime phone number. We may edit letters. Submission and publication of all letters is subject to our terms and conditions: see theguardian.com/letters-terms



Pakistan deserves climate reparations

Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar's article (Rich countries caused Pakistan's catastrophic flooding. Their response? Inertia and apathy, theguardian.com, 5 September) underlines the scale of the catastrophe that has befallen Pakistan, and is a clear call by an eminent spokesperson from the global south for reparations to be paid by the rich world to countries directly affected by the climate crisis. Some may question the moral case for saying that rich countries must, in effect, admit guilt and cover the costs of catastrophes that occur far away, especially when these same countries are already committed to funding mitigation measures through forums such as Cop26 in Glasgow last year.

There is an important distinction here, however. Cop26 payments - which are still far from

being implemented - will allow poorer countries to put in place infrastructure and other measures to reduce the worst impacts of the crisis now affecting all of us. Mr Khokhar is arguing for additional payments in compensation for damages caused by those who have created the climate crisis and its consequent catastrophes.

Pakistan contributes less than 1% in global emissions and has played almost no part in creating the climate crisis. The mass of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere has been accumulating since at least 1850, when the global north began burning coal and oil to fuel its industrialisation and drive the imperialism that enabled it to extract vast resources from countries now seriously affected by climate change. Like anyone who causes damage to his or her neighbour, and has been living well off their resources, we should accept the blame and pay up accordingly.

Christopher Tanner
Llandovery, Carmarthenshire



Emily Maitlis was right to speak out

BBC Panorama’s Carrickmore incident features in the first instalment of David Dimbleby’s recent documentary trilogy on BBC scandals. In 1979, as acting senior press officer for the BBC, I was running a campaign for the licence fee as well as handling daily BBC crises with my bosses. Margaret Thatcher was prime minister. The then BBC chairman of governors, Michael Swann, had been contacted by Downing Street, asking him to bury the BBC film on the IRA in Carrickmore. The programme was indeed pulled. Journalists felt justifiably angry at the interference. The public was denied insight into the IRA’s behaviour and had no say. Forty-three years on, Emily Maitlis finds herself under disproportionate attack from BBC establishment figures for her 2022 MacTaggart lecture that questioned the speed at which the BBC gave a

high-profile public apology to the government for remarks that she made on Newsnight in 2020 about Dominic Cummings. Will Wyatt, a former BBC chief executive, wrote to the Guardian criticising Maitlis (Letters, 29 August) and the current chairman, Richard Sharp, condemned her assessment. In her speech, Maitlis had described BBC board member Robbie Gibb as “an active agent of the Conservative party”, because of his former role as a government spin doctor and his association with the BBC rival GB News. We are talking about the board of governors, not the people who are supposed to be in charge editorially. There is no doubt in my view that she was right to expose this inappropriate appointment, particularly when the country faces many threats to democracy. Without an independent BBC, full of highly skilled journalists, our resilience to any one threat would be seriously undermined. **Rosie Brocklehurst**
St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex

Going in to bat for long-form cricket

You could have made a case for the Hundred on the grounds of new audiences or financial necessity without indulging in lazy stereotypes about accountants and retired colonels being archetypal Test cricket followers (Editorial, 6 September). Test cricket is followed by people of all classes, demographics and genders. Supporters of the other traditional form, the county championship, are by no means all posh, rich or male. Additionally, not all counties are shoehorned into the franchise system. The two London ones are based at Lord’s and the Oval and have nothing to do with my county, Kent. This adds to the dislike of the Hundred by many cricket fans because traditional centres of the game are deprived of cricket at peak times of the season. **Michael Cunningham**
Wolverhampton

Corrections and clarifications

- An article about Durham University said its constituent colleges “make their own individual decisions about intake”; to clarify, while prospective students are encouraged to express a preference for a college, which the university aims to fulfil, admissions are handled centrally. Durham has also asked us to make clear that its sexual misconduct and violence policy applies across the university (University of strife, 27 August, Saturday magazine, p22).
- It is the film-maker Tom Piper, not the theatre designer of the same name, who is involved in plans for an artwork at a disused quarry (Slag heap among the contenders for landmark artwork on Cumbrian coast, 3 September, p3).

Editorial complaints and corrections can be sent to guardian.readers@theguardian.com or The readers' editor, **Kings Place, 90 York Way, London N1 9GU**. You can also leave a voicemail on **020 3353 4736**

Troubled by Truss’s talent-free top team

So, according to Liz Truss’s press secretary, her new cabinet represents “the depth and breadth of talent” in the Conservative party (Politics live, [theguardian.com](https://www.theguardian.com), 7 September). Isn’t that the problem? **James Wilkinson**
Ford, Shropshire

● As Dilyn the dog is now surplus to PR requirements, we’d like to offer him a berth on our boat. Apart from giving him a break from the worst prime minister since the last one, it would also give my wife and me a small dog each to cuddle when we attempt to keep warm this winter. **Ian Grieve**
Gordon Bennett, Shropshire Union canal

● I understand Adrian Chiles’s delight at the quality of service stations in mainland Europe (G2, 8 September). He might like to visit Tebay services on the M6, where he will find excellent fresh food and a farm shop selling local produce. **Stephen Hawkin**
Edinburgh

● I am concerned that investing in battery-powered heated knickers (Letters, 8 September) will make putting them on while standing up even more problematic. **Helen Keats**
Kingston, Isle of Wight

● Re describing unmarried partners, German has a neat way of dealing with this (Letters, 9 September). *Lebensgefährte* and *Lebensgefährtin* mean “life companion”. **Julie Scattergood**
Kendal, Cumbria

Established 1906 Country diary

Carneddi, Nantmor, Gwynedd

With my back to an oak tree in the last copse below Carneddi’s fridd wall, I focus my glass on a low branch where a tree pipit is feeding a young cuckoo. Pale green caterpillars dangling from the pipit’s bill contrast neatly with the pink of this foster parent’s lower mandible. The cuckoo, plump and ungainly, gorges itself and looks for more. The pipit flies up into the foliage to oblige, and swiftly returns with another neat rack of fuel for the immense journey to sub-Saharan Africa on which this youngster will soon embark. As I watch, the fledgling drops from the branch. With wings acutely angled downwards, its barred form flies strongly down-valley, heading across tawny grass and heather before careering back to the oak branch again. It alights awkwardly, the pipit once more in rapid attendance.

I traverse the moor towards Craig y Dyniewyd, leaving chick and provider to their imminent farewell. On the cliff above, nothing moves. I plod on, hopping from tussock to tussock, pondering the mysteries of bird migration. A whistling causes me to glance up. A corona of downy feathers drifts across the westering sun. There’s a thud. The cuckoo’s severed head bounces on the hard earth. Ten yards away, a tiercel fixes me with fierce challenge. His talons in the cuckoo’s breast, he rips out strips of bloody flesh, swallows them down, lifts the limp corpse and flies back to his vantage point. In which eyrie was he fledged? The long-established nest on Craig Cwm Trwsgl is likeliest and nearest. I’d love to have discussed this with Derek Ratcliffe (1929-2005), whose work on the effects of organochlorine pesticides on eggshell-thinning and brood failure among raptors began in Bangor, where he studied for a doctorate on mountain vegetation. Derek knew every peregrine site in Eryri (Snowdonia).

I swing my glass back to the copse from which I came. Nothing moves. All is silent, the birdlife of mountain and woodland as oppressed by the raptor’s presence as the English electorate is by that far tawdrier and less environmentally friendly creature, its rapacious and brutal government. **Jim Perrin**



ILLUSTRATION: CLIFFORD HARPER



Harold Chapman

Photographer who chronicled 'swinging London' in the 1960s and Beat writers in Paris

During the 1950s and 60s the photographer Harold Chapman, who has died aged 95, chronicled the denizens of the "Beat hotel" in Paris. After a chance encounter with the photographer John Deakin in Soho, London, in the mid-50s, where he had been documenting jazz, Chapman moved to Paris in 1956 and lived at 9 Rue Git-le-Cœur, the hotel in the city's Latin quarter that became known as a favourite destination for Beat writers including William S Burroughs and Gregory Corso.

As well as Burroughs, his neighbours included the American writer Harold Norse, and the poet

and painter Kay "Kaja" Johnson. During his sojourn at the Left Bank hotel - he was the last guest to leave when the establishment closed its doors in 1963 - Chapman documented street life in Paris, including the food markets of Les Halles, photographs of which were published in the book *Vanishing France* (1975, with John L Hess).

During the 60s, Chapman travelled back and forth between Paris and London, where he worked as a freelance photographer for Fleet Street newspapers, recording the burgeoning "swinging city", as *Time* magazine described London in 1966. Chapman's skill at documenting soon-to-be-vanishing milieux, underscored by works such as *The Complete Guide to London's Antique Street Markets* (1974), was accompanied

Clockwise from top: Chapman's favourite photograph, of Peter Orlovsky and Allen Ginsberg around 1957; Anne Winston, the wife of the jazz player Cecil 'Flash' Winston, at a Soho club in the 50s; shoppers in Margate, Kent, in 1968; Chapman in the 'Beat hotel' in Paris

HAROLD CHAPMAN/
TOPFOTO



All I aim for is to record the trivial things that ordinary people use



by an ability to capture his subjects without staging shots.

The poet Allen Ginsberg described him as an "invisible" photographer. The novelist Ian McEwan, who met Chapman in 1974, wrote in the *Guardian* in 2000 that he "took pictures like taking breath. In the street, he shot people coming out of doorways, or stepping out of taxis, or greeting each other outside shops."

There is "no need for the contrived shot", Chapman explained in an interview in 1968. "So why set up a photograph when the natural one is infinitely better? ... All I aim for is to record the trivial things that ordinary people use and consider unimportant."

Notwithstanding his drive to capture the ordinary and the trivial, his favourite - and most famous - shot was a picture of Ginsberg and his lover Peter Orlovsky sitting back-to-back on a bench in St-Germain-des-Prés, taken around 1957, an image that was recreated in the film *Howl* (2010), starring James Franco as Ginsberg.

More than 200 of Chapman's photographs were published in *The Beat Hotel* (1984). In the foreword to the book, Burroughs, who completed his novel *The Naked Lunch* at the hotel, recalled: "It was a magical interlude, and like all such interludes, all too brief." Alan Govenar's documentary, also called *The Beat Hotel* (2012), focuses on Chapman's recollections of his time at 9 Rue Git-le-Cœur, along with

those of the Scottish artist Elliot Rudie. Chapman described the hotel as “always fun ... always dada ... always surreal”, during a period in which, thanks to the low cost of living, he was able to pick and choose his creative projects.

A number of Chapman’s photographs, many taken on an ancient Contax camera, were included in the exhibition Beat Generation at the Pompidou Centre in Paris in 2016. The title of another exhibition, Not Only the Beat Hotel, at Linden Hall Studio in his native Deal, Kent, the following year, was a reminder that Chapman’s work extended beyond the coteries and street life of the Left Bank. His extensive portfolio included stunning pictures of megaliths in the Languedoc, images for French guidebooks and for cookery books, and he also documented the remains of second world war defences in Deal in the early 1990s.

Chapman’s career as a jobbing photographer seemed unlikely during his youth. As he told the Guardian in 2010: “I’ve had no education whatsoever – I successfully ran away from every school I ever went to. I studied photography just by doing it.” The suicide of his father, Harold, a carpenter and builder, who had introduced him to photography, had a profound effect on the nine-year-old Chapman. His mother, Ilse (nee Becker, known as Elsie), who was half Danish and half German, sent her son off to a school in German-speaking Switzerland, which he described as a “correctional institution”. Returning to Britain in 1939, Chapman witnessed a bomb descending during the war. He recalled: “I suddenly realised I was dead and time and everything seemed to be frozen in a total silence. I reasoned that as I was now dead, I could do anything.”

These early experiences informed Chapman’s outlook, and his craft. He told the gallery director Myles Corley in 2017: “You can do what you like if you step out of being too influenced by society and all the rules ... I never understood any of them all my life.”

After a life of extensive travel, including national service with the army in Uganda, and then France, where he continued to live on and off from the 50s to the early 90s, Chapman returned to his father’s cottage in Deal in 1993 with his third wife, Claire, whom he met in the south of France in 1980 and married in 1990. In 2021, suffering from dementia, he moved to a nursing home near Folkestone.

He is survived by Claire (nee Parry), two children, Sue and Richard, from his first marriage, four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Douglas Field

Harold Stephen Chapman, photographer, born 26 March 1927; died 19 August 2022

Joseph Delaney

Children’s author whose popular Spook’s series drew on Lancashire history and folklore

The children’s author Joseph Delaney, who has died aged 77, was best known for the series of novels that began with The Spook’s Apprentice (2004), and the 2014 film based on it, Seventh Son.

The Spook’s Apprentice, Delaney’s first published novel, was quick to find success and he went on to sell more than 4m children’s books worldwide. However, getting to be an author had not been as instantaneous as that might look.

A teacher and subsequently head of the department of English and media studies at Blackpool sixth form college, Delaney had previously written many science fiction and fantasy novels for adults, none of which had found a publisher. He was encouraged by his agent to try writing for younger readers, specifically to fit the brief of a publisher who was looking for stories featuring magic to fulfil the demand created by the success of JK Rowling’s Harry Potter novels.

Somewhat reluctantly, because, as he later admitted, he thought writing for children was less important than writing for adults, Delaney wrote a book to meet the publisher’s requirements. Rather than start with a new story, he returned to one he had originally written in 1993 when he moved to a village that had a folk tale about its

own local “boggart” – a malevolent creature intent on creating mischief.

Drawing on this and other stories from Lancashire folklore, Delaney created a world in which everyday life is convincingly infused with the paranormal. The young hero, Tom Ward, a seventh son of a seventh son, and thus gifted with special powers, is destined to become apprenticed to the bad-tempered spook, and learns to wrangle with the troublesome boggart and other creatures from the Dark.

Influenced as a writer by JRR Tolkien, Delaney was proud that his boggarts and the magic they brought with them were Lancastrian in nature. He believed in the paranormal, claiming that he had experienced it as a child. He also relied on his dreams for his storytelling ideas – in the tradition of Bram Stoker, whom he also admired. Although the books refer to it only as “the county”, Lancashire and its countryside, where he lived, and the town of Preston, where he was born, were the source of the strong sense of place that was an important part of the series’ identity and popularity.

The Spook’s Apprentice won the Lancashire book of the year award and was highly praised by teachers and librarians. Delaney enjoyed being a writer in the lively years of the rising demand for children’s books after Harry Potter. He threw himself into meeting his readers



A strong sense of place was an important part of the series’ identity and popularity

Delaney sold more than 4m books worldwide
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE/PA

and kept up a steady stream of new books – one a year until the series concluded with the 13th title, The Spook’s Revenge (2014).

Film rights for the Spook’s series were eagerly snapped up, but went through the hands of three directors, including Tim Burton, before Seventh Son appeared in 2014, directed by Sergei Bodrov. It starred Jeff Bridges as the Spook, Ben Barnes as young Tom Ward and Julianne Moore as Mother Malkin, an old hag who, in the books at least, spends much of her time buried in a pit. It was shot in British Columbia and not Lancashire as Delaney would have liked – although he loved going to Canada to watch the filming – with Pendle Hill transformed into Pendle City. Like many authors Delaney found the experience of a film adaption both thrilling and frustrating, and sensibly concluded that the story was no longer in his hands. In the same year, his son Stephen adapted the stories into a play.

Delaney retired from teaching after the publication of the second Spook’s title and concentrated on being a writer, as he had always wanted to be. Jake Hope, a judge of the Lancashire book of the year, described him as “a very fast and efficient writer who was always brimming with ideas but very private about what he was writing”. In addition to the Spook’s books, he wrote several shorter series including The Starblade Chronicles (2014-17), also about Tom Ward; Arena 13 (2015-17), a science fiction series for young adults; Aberrations (2018-19), a dark fantasy series; and The Spook’s Apprentice: Brother Wulf (2020), a spinoff from the original series. Brother Wulf: The Last Spook, was published earlier this year and Brother Wulf: Wulf’s War is due out next year.

The son of a labourer, Delaney was born and grew up in Preston. He went to school at Preston Catholic college and worked as an apprentice engineer before taking A-levels at night school and going to Lancaster University as a mature student to study English, history and sociology when he was 27. On graduating he trained as a teacher at St Martin’s College in Lancaster.

In 1968 he married Marie Smith. They had three children, Joanne, Paul and Stephen, who remember their father as warm and funny and the teller of “very scary stories that should not have been told after dark”. Marie was a constant support when Delaney’s career as a writer took off, and she accompanied him on many book promotions and tours. She died of ovarian cancer in 2007. In 2014 Delaney married Rani Kuncher Vannithamby; she survives him, along with his children and nine grandchildren.

Julia Eccleshare

Joseph Henry Delaney, children’s writer and teacher, born 25 July 1945; died 16 August 2022

Birthdays

Today’s birthdays: **Sir Thomas Allen**, operatic baritone, 78; **Gee Armytage**, jockey, 57; **Jackie Ashley**, journalist and broadcaster, 68; **Roy Ayers**, composer and vibraphone player, 82; **The Rev Canon Prof Sarah Coakley**, theologian, 71; **Isabel Colegate**, novelist, 91; **Chris Columbus**, film director, 64; **Misty Copeland**, ballerina, 40; **Edmund de Waal**, ceramic artist and writer, 58; **Jared Diamond**, geographer, anthropologist and author, 85; **Siobhan Fahey**, singer/songwriter, 64; **Margaret Ferrier**, SNP MP, 62; **Colin Firth**, actor, 62; **Judy Geeson**, actor, 74; **David Hamilton**, disc jockey, 84; **Nicola Jennings**, cartoonist, 64; **Mark Mardell**, former BBC radio presenter and journalist, 65; **Joe Perry**, guitarist, 72; **Sir David Pountney**, opera director, 75; **Guy Ritchie**, film director and writer, 54; **Prof Janet Todd**, literary scholar and former president, Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge, 80.

Tomorrow’s birthdays: **Richard Ashcroft**, singer, 51; **Bashar al-Assad**, president of Syria, 57; **Franz Beckenbauer**, footballer and manager, 77; **Munroe Bergdorf**, model and transgender activist, 35; **Catherine Bott**, soprano and broadcaster, 70; **Anthony Browne**, author and illustrator, former children’s laureate, 76; **Jonny Buckland**, guitarist, 45; **Harry Connick Jr**, singer and actor, 55; **Julie Covington**, singer and actor, 76; **Brian De Palma**, film director, 82; **Prof Anne Dell**, biochemist, 72; **Judith Howarth**, soprano, 60; **Clive Lewis**, Labour MP, 51; **Virginia Madsen**, actor, 61; **Moby**, musician, 57; **Jon Moss**, drummer, 65; **Arvo Pärt**, composer, 87; **Brian Perkins**, radio newsreader, 79; **Sinan Savaskan**, composer, 68; **Matthew Stevens**, snooker player, 45; **Roger Uttley**, former England and Lions rugby union player, 73; **Prof Julie Williams**, Alzheimer’s researcher and director, Dementia Research Institute, Cardiff University.

Announcements

Deaths
KAROL (DMOCHOWSKI), Tom. Suddenly 22 August, aged 73. Devoted husband to Marian and father to Cora and Justin. For funeral details visit thomasdmochowski.muchloved.com/.

In Memoriam
JARA, Victor, folk singer, activist, husband, father, compañero and martyr. Beaten to death during an American-backed military coup against Chile’s elected government in 1973.

For Announcements, Acknowledgments, Adoptions, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Births, Deaths, Engagements, Memorial Services and In Memoriam, email us at announcements@theguardian.com including your name, address and telephone number or phone 0203 353 2114.

✉ obituaries@theguardian.com
✉ other.lives@theguardian.com
🐦 @guardianobits

Information on offering Other lives pieces can be found at theguardian.com/contact-obits. Submission and publication of all Other lives pieces and letters is subject to our terms and conditions: see <http://gu.com/letters-terms>

Other lives



Marina Keet

Dancer, choreographer and prolific historian with an enduring devotion to the folk culture of Spain

My mother, the dancer, choreographer and dance historian Marina Keet, who has died aged 87, was an inspirational teacher with a lifelong devotion to the regional folk culture of Spain. In 1989 she was made a dame of the Order of Queen Isabel of Spain for her services to the preservation of Spanish culture.

Born in Calvinia in the Karoo region of South Africa, to Helen (nee Buck) and Quartus Keet, a postmaster, Marina started dancing at the age of 10 when her family moved to Stellenbosch. She attended Rhenish girls' high school in the town, leaving at 16 to take over the running of her former ballet teacher's dance studio.

In 1955, Marina travelled to London to study choreography with Marie Rambert, only to discover that the course had been disbanded. Walking away with no idea of what to do next, she heard sounds of clapping and stamping coming from a nearby building. It was a class with the Spanish dance teacher Elsa Brunelleschi, who she went on to train with and who introduced her to many influential dancers, including Luisillo.

In 1959, Marina married Mikael Grut, a student at the forestry school in Stellenbosch. They lived for two years in his native Stockholm before returning to Stellenbosch in time for my birth in 1961, followed by that of Edmund in 1963 and Nicolai in 1969. Marina taught Spanish dance and ballet history at the University of Cape Town, and choreographed a number of ambitious works for the UCT ballet company, including a flamenco Bolero and Misa Flamenca.

Marina was part of a network of teachers, many of whom had danced professionally in Spain, who devised a syllabus and examination system that put Spanish dance teaching on a par with the Royal Academy of Dance and Cecchetti methods for ballet. She was also one of eight founding members of the Spanish Dance Society, formed in 1965, which today has centres all over the world.

In 1977, Mikael and Marina moved their family to Rome,



Marina Keet in 1957. She trained with the dance teacher Elsa Brunelleschi

She devised a number of ambitious works for the Cape Town company, including a flamenco Bolero

then in 1982 to Washington DC, where Marina taught at George Washington University and formed a vibrant company that performed regularly at venues including the Kennedy Center and the Smithsonian Institution.

In 1994, they retired to Wimbledon, south-west London, and Marina embarked on an extraordinary period of productivity. She wrote (under her married name) *The Bolero School: an Illustrated History of the Bolero, the Seguidillas and the Escuela Bolera* (2002); *Royal Swedish Ballet* (2007), a 700-page history, which won her a gold medal from Sweden's Carina Ari Foundation; and her autobiography, *My Dancing Life* (2017). At her 70th birthday celebrations my father said: "If you told Marina that she had to clean all the streets of London with a toothbrush, she would just say, 'Give me the toothbrush', and she would finish the job."

Marina is survived by Mikael, and their children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Vicky Grut



Colin Smith

Doctor practising in the Medway towns who helped found the Dickens Country Protection Society

When my father, Colin Smith, who has died aged 89, was a small boy during the second world war, he observed that when someone was ill, there was a general sense of relief when the doctor arrived. He wanted to be the person whose presence was so reassuring, and set about making it happen.

He was born in Godalming, Surrey. His father, Sydney Smith, went from the Royal Flying Corps to running a preparatory school with his wife, Constance (nee Sidney), giving Colin the advantage of a scholarly background.

After Charterhouse school in the town and then Oxford University, where he studied medicine, he took a year off from his training at Guy's hospital in London, and signed up to sail across the North Atlantic on board a Bristol Channel pilot cutter, which is how he met his future wife, Celia Perkins, another crew member.

Realising after qualifying that he could fulfil his national service using his medical skills, Colin went to practise medicine in Lesotho, South Africa. He wrote to Celia inviting her to join him, and they married there in 1960. After three years they returned to settle near the Medway towns in Kent, living outside the village of Higham, not far from Charles Dickens's home at Gad's Hill Place. There he became deeply involved with the local people; both through his work as family doctor and GP trainer, and in the protection of the countryside.

He was one of the founders of the Dickens Country Protection Society in the early 1970s to safeguard the North Kent marshes from the incursion of industry - specifically an oil refinery. Methods included driving around on his 125cc motorbike selling raffle tickets, and making a BBC Open Door documentary, *The Forgotten Marshes* (1976). Colin also held a mud-smeared shrimp-counting "festival" to aid his ecological research. The marshes remain protected to this day.

Colin and Celia retired in 1996 to Dorset where he became occupied with the local church in Beaminster as church warden, while also singing in the choir. The solar panels he had been campaigning for are due to be installed soon in the church roof.

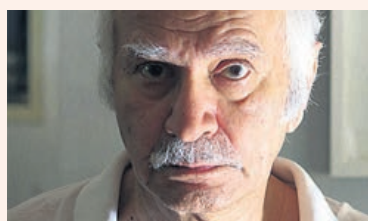
Colin was a voracious reader and a talented amateur musician,

artist and writer. In parallel with his Christian beliefs he was a staunch supporter of other faiths, and he and Celia travelled to Ramallah in 2004, visiting the Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in his compound.

His once robust health had deteriorated in recent years and eventually gave out when he suffered heart failure and a stroke.

As well as Celia, he is survived by three daughters, Philippa, Diana and me, and three grandchildren, Eve, Joe and Isabella. He was predeceased by his son, Peter.

Clare Gregory-Smith



Zulfikar Ghose

Novelist and poet associated with the Group movement in the 1950s and 60s who later taught creative writing

My uncle Zulfikar Ghose, who has died aged 87, earned his living as a poet, teacher, novelist and literary critic in Britain during the 1950s and 60s, before spending much of the rest of his life as a creative writing lecturer at an American university.

Zulf was born in India in Sialkot (now in Pakistan), the third of

four children; he had three sisters, Virginia, Lily and Zahida. His father, Khwaja Mohammed Ghosh, was a businessman and his mother, Selima (nee Virk), a homemaker. The family moved to Bombay (now Mumbai) in 1942 before leaving India in 1952.

Having changed their name to Ghose, the family settled in London, where his father opened a boutique, Maharani, on Regent Street, and Zulf attended Sloane school in Chelsea, captaining the cricket team. In 1955 he went to Keele University to study English and philosophy, becoming editor of the university's literary magazine and of a national anthology of poetry by undergraduates, called *Universities' Poetry*.

After graduating he returned to London, where he struck up friendships with the experimental novelist, poet and literary critic BS Johnson, and the poet Anthony Smith. Part of the Group, an informal alliance of poets who met in London in the 50s and 60s, Zulf became a British citizen in 1961, often giving poetry readings on the BBC. His talent was recognised by the Eric Gregory awards in 1963, the year he began teaching English at Ealing Mead county school in west London.

He also worked as a freelance sports journalist for the Observer, covering cricket and hockey, and wrote book reviews for publications

including the Guardian, Spectator, Times Literary Supplement and Western Daily Press.

His first collection of poems, *The Loss of India*, was published in 1964, and an autobiography, *Confessions of a Native-Alien*, followed in 1965. His first novel, *The Contradictions*, and a collection of short stories with Johnson, *Statement Against Corpses*, came in 1966. By the time of his death he had written a dozen novels, half a dozen nonfiction books and seven collections of poetry.

In 1969, Zulf and his wife, the Brazilian artist Helena de la Fontaine, whom he married in 1964, moved to the US when he accepted a 12-month contract to teach creative writing at the University of Texas at Austin. Once the contract was up, he lectured there for the following 38 years, becoming a US citizen (while retaining his British passport) and retiring as a professor emeritus in 2007. In 2016 he received the lifetime achievement award at the first International Conference of Pakistani Writing in English at Kinnaird College for Women in Lahore.

At home, Zulf was an exceptional cook, and loved to cater for friends and family. He also enjoyed opera, driving sports cars, sampling fine wine, drinking whisky and smoking cigars.

Helena and Zahida survive him.
Adrian Locke

Sudoku

Easy

Medium

Expert

The normal rules of Sudoku apply: fill each row, column and 3x3 box with all the numbers from 1 to 9.

						5
		7		8		
2		3	5		7	6 8
		2			3	4
5	3	6				
	5			1		8
7	1		6		9	
3	8					2

	6		3	8			
4				7		5	8
							1
3				5	1	7	
8		6		7	4		3
			8	3			
		2	9	6			4
		8	2		6		5
	3			5		2	

			3				
			5			1	2
	5			1	6		4
1			9			4	
		9		8	5	7	1
		7					
3		2	5	8			
6						9	
	7	8		3			

Futoshiki

Easy

Fill in the grid so that every row and column contains the numbers 1-5. The “greater than” or “less than” signs indicate where a number is larger or smaller than its neighbour.

			<		
			∨	∨	
			3	<	
				∨	
		<	4	<	
∧	∧				
	>		<		
	∧				
		>			2

Kids Word search

Find all the listed Sauces in the grid, reading in straight lines, up, down or diagonally, either backwards or forwards.

APPLE, CHEESE, CHILLI, GRAVY, KETCHUP, MINT, MUSTARD, PESTO, RELISH, SALSA, SATAY, SOY, TARTARE, TOMATO

N	Y	D	H	S	I	L	E	R
G	V	S	P	E	S	T	O	C
D	A	A	U	K	V	E	H	C
N	R	T	H	N	R	E	D	H
M	G	A	C	A	E	R	S	I
I	I	Y	T	S	P	A	O	L
N	N	R	E	S	L	P	Y	L
T	A	O	K	S	U	P	L	I
T	O	M	A	T	O	M	E	E

Kids Countdown

Can you work out the answers to the sums below?

Easy
8
+ 14
Half of it
+ 17
÷ 7
× 10
- 24
÷ 8
× 9
- 12
Answer

Medium
32
- 23
× 10
- 39
2/3 of it
+ 30
Quarter of it
+ 32
Third of it
+ 35
Answer

Hard
72
+ 181
÷ 11
+ 118
Third of it
- 38
Square root of it
× 12
+ 102
5/6 of it
Answer

Solutions

Kids Countdown
Easy: 6
Medium: 51
Hard: 115

2	1	9	4	5	7	4	3	8	9	3
3	8	5	2	6	3	1	4	8	7	5
7	1	4	8	2	9	5	3	6	1	4
5	3	5	3	1	4	8	7	2	1	1
9	7	1	2	7	8	5	3	4	9	6
4	6	3	5	7	2	1	3	8	5	4
8	9	7	3	5	1	4	2	6	8	7
1	3	4	6	9	5	2	7	1	8	3
6	5	2	9	8	1	7	4	3	6	5

6	1	2	8	7	5	3	4	9	8	6
9	3	4	7	5	8	2	1	4	6	3
5	9	8	2	1	4	6	3	7	5	9
1	7	2	9	6	3	8	5	4	1	7
9	5	5	9	3	2	8	7	4	1	6
7	4	1	6	9	1	5	3	8	2	7
3	2	5	6	9	6	1	7	4	2	3
8	1	7	9	6	3	5	2	1	8	4
9	1	3	4	7	9	5	8	2	6	1
4	8	7	5	2	9	3	6	1	4	8

9	7	8	3	4	6	8	7	5	1	2
6	4	5	1	7	2	9	3	8	6	4
3	1	2	5	8	6	7	4	9	3	1
5	8	7	4	2	1	3	9	6	5	8
4	2	9	3	6	8	5	7	1	4	2
1	3	8	7	5	6	2	1	9	3	8
7	5	3	2	1	6	4	8	9	7	5
8	6	4	9	5	7	1	2	3	6	4
6	1	8	3	4	9	5	7	2	1	6
2	9	5	1	7	4	8	3	6	5	2

2	1	3	<	4	5
			∨		
1	2	5	>	3	4
			∨		
3	5	>	4	>	2
			∨		
4	>	3	1	5	2
			∨		
5	4	>	2	1	3

T	O	M	A	T	O	M	E	E
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I
T	A	O	K	S	L	P	L	I



Yesterday's solutions

Killer sudoku
Easy

8	6	1	7	2	5	4	3	9
2	9	4	3	1	8	5	7	6
3	7	5	4	6	9	8	1	2
6	1	3	8	4	2	9	5	7
5	8	7	1	9	3	6	2	4
4	2	9	5	7	6	3	8	1
1	3	2	9	8	4	7	6	5
7	4	8	6	5	1	2	9	3
9	5	6	2	3	7	1	4	8

Medium

8	5	1	6	2	9	3	4	7
7	3	6	4	1	5	2	8	9
4	9	2	3	7	8	1	6	5
6	8	5	1	9	3	7	2	4
2	4	9	7	8	6	5	3	1
3	1	7	2	5	4	6	9	8
5	6	4	8	3	1	9	7	2
9	7	8	5	6	2	4	1	3
1	2	3	9	4	7	8	5	6

Codeword

H	Q	V	O	B	K
M	A	T	U	R	I
R	E	E	R	R	N
E	M	I	R	W	E
Y	S	A			
A	M	B	I	T	G
A	N	G	R		R
O	X	Y	G	E	N
I		A	M	O	X
I	M	P	A	C	T
D					
P	E	R	J	U	R
V	U	U	U	I	H
N	I	P	S	F	L
L	T	F	L	T	T

Cryptic crossword
Solution No. 28,858

B	L	O	O	D	I	S	T	H	I	C	K	E	R
A	D	I	E	U	A	U	G	R	A	T	I	N	
T	E	B	Y	H	I	Q	I						
H	A	R	D	T	O	P	T	A	R	O	U	I	N
E		L	U	E		E	T						
R	I	N	S	E		T	H	A	N	W	A	T	E
S	U	S					O	T	A				
K	A	M	A	S	U	T	R	A					
I	B		A	R	D		S						
T	H	E	R	O	U	X	R	O	S	S	I	N	I
E	R	F	I	A	T	I	N	G					
E	T	R	U	S	C	A	N						
W	S	A	G	C	I	N							
P	O	W	E	R	B	R	E	A	K	F	A	S	T

 **Want more?** Get access to more than 4,000 puzzles at theguardian.com/crossword. To buy puzzle books, visit guardianbookshop.com or call 0330 333 6846.

Killer sudoku


Hard No 830

The normal rules of Sudoku apply: fill each row, column and 3x3 box with all the numbers from 1 to 9. In addition, the digits in each inner shape (marked by dots) must add up to the number in the top corner of that box. No digit can be repeated within an inner shape.

5			13			29		
21					14		19	7
17	9		8	8	25	23		11
							11	
								12
16		16	14			10		
16				5			17	8
	14		33		12			
					4		8	

Guardian cryptic crossword No 28,859 set by Picaroon

	1		2		3		4		5		6		
7													8
9					10								
11							12						
13					14					15	16		
									17				
18					19								20
22		23					24						
25									26				
	27												

 **The first five correct entries drawn each week win a copy of The Language Lover's Puzzle Book by Alex Bellos**
Entries to: The Guardian Crossword No 28,859,
P.O. Box 17566, Birmingham, B33 3EZ, or Fax to 0121-742 1313 by Friday.
Solution and winners in The Guardian on Monday 19 September.

Chris Maslanka's puzzles

Pyrgic puzzles

1 For obvious reasons Pedanticus has been a little subdued lately, though he has occasionally broken his silence to rage against Radio 4 (our guide and support in troubled times) and their references to *George the Six* (sic) or, just as gratingly, to *George the Sickth* (sic). I tried to distract him with this fragment of flawed text. "Sirius A, two times more massive than our sun..." Can you guess what was wrong with it? [Hint: Sirius A has a mass equal to 2.02 solar masses.]


2 One way of representing 1/7 as the sum of two reciprocals is 1/14+ 1/14. What is the other way? Why are there just two ways of doing it? How do you know?

3 3 times which prime number is one less

than a perfect square?

4 Garabaggio's *Frames*, currently on show at Rogues's Gallery on Poppycock Terrace, shows a square inscribed in a square. The points of contact are a quarter of the way along the sides of the larger square. As Art it is rot, as Brian Seewell was quick to point out, but it does suggest easy mathematical questions. What fraction of the area of the whole does the inner square take up? What if the points of contact are a fraction f along the sides of the larger square? What is the minimum area the inner square could take up without losing touch with the outer?

5 Multiplying 54321 by what 5-digit number produces a 10-digit number ending in 12345? email: maslanka@easynet.co.uk



Wordplay

Wordpool
In each case find the correct definition:

CHINCERINCHEE
a) epic by Longfellow
b) a plant with white flowers
c) rainforest monkey
d) silk kerchief

GLAIR
a) part of ramparts
b) scree
c) radioactive water
d) white of egg

BOMBORA
a) electric eel
b) dangerous eddy over a reef
c) ballistic device
d) Italian bandito

Dropouts
Replace each asterisk by a letter to make a word:

*A*F*T*

E Pluribus Unum
Rearrange the letters of GOLD TIARA to make a single word.

3-4-5
It contains alternating current (3)
Frank stamped on official mail revealing resistance units (4)
Name of legitimate forger (5)

Cracker Barrel
Where does a geologist put her rock samples?

Missing Links
Find a word which follows the first word in the clue and precedes the second in each case making a fresh word or phrase. E.g. the answer to *fish mix* could be *cake* (fishcake & cake mix) and to *bat man* it could be *he* (bathe & he-man)...

a) garden hat b) saluting master
c) spy tree d) sword cake
e) small pattern f) page acid

©CMM 2022. Solutions on Page 62

Across

1 Poems from elegist on vacation, tucking into eight pints (4,8)

9 Liberal with urge to follow Conservative Party leader once (5)

10 Sorted out basin that holds litres for washing (9)

11 Discredits rubbish in article in Le Monde? (7)

12 Fishy food reportedly expensive, one ruminates (3,4)

13 Twerps accepting promotion, more than one daily (10)

15 Wanting appeal in cases of upskirting and larceny (4)

18 Tender European remainers do so (4)

19 Possible future queen, old man's offspring hugs Edward (6,4)

22 Picaroon is entertained by Tramp in some papers (7)

24 Figures feeling less special (7)

25 Sound of horn back in jazzy hit musical style (5-4)

26 Many a laptop has installed a browser (5)

27 Very merry daughter larks around giddily (5,2,1,4)

Down

1 Worry love-filled poet will show bit of neck (9)

2 You are heard on piano with great persistence (8)

3 Topless groups of men revealing big muscles (5)

4 Wholly reformed Greens? They may provoke a reaction (9)

5 Social media's ignored with a laugh (6)

6 Recurring idea of revolutionary English Left (5)

7 Cutting papers penned by a military chief (6)

8 Huge creature that's hunted piscivore (6)

14 Mounting attack, a hero runs and runs (9)

16 Greece has one country mansion fit for the King (9)

17 Vow by this person, one playing Mozart work (8)

18 Immature bloomer had vexed enlightened teacher (6)

20 News about one American behind reversing car (6)

21 Politician with vote against backing Gaddafi? (6)

23 eg Cervantes's title the writer leaves higher up (5)

24 Religious image overturned by answerphone manufacturer (5)

Name _____
Address _____

Postcode _____
Telephone number _____

☐ Tick here if you do not wish to receive further information from the Guardian Media Group or other companies screened by us.

How many times a week do you buy the Guardian? _____
How many times a month do you buy the Observer? * _____

Thomasina Miers

Greens on toast
with tomato jam

Meera Sodha

Marmite risotto
with crispy chilli

Late-summer fruit

Pork chops with
pancetta and peach

Speedy barbecue

Chicken skewers and
sesame flatbreads

Rachel Roddy

Meringue with
cream, fruit and nuts

Felicity Cloake

Plum clafoutis

Ravneet Gill

Malt panna cotta

Kate Hawkings

The joy of spritz

Grace Dent

'Theatre, pacing
and exquisite
attention to detail'

Figgy pudding

Ottolenghi's dutch baby

Feast

Issue No.242 Saturday 10 September 2022

The
Guardian





Yotam Ottolenghi



Pickling, salting, fermenting and curing are just a few of the many ways humankind has learned to extend a food's shelf life. I'm not one for goodbyes at the best of times, so happily this means I never really have to part with my favourite fruit and vegetables; instead, I get to enjoy them in a different guise. Whereas fresh produce needs very little doing to it, the art of preserving lends itself to bigger, louder, funkier flavours. The ingredients get to know each other in whatever controlled environment we've put them and, somehow, they transform into intense spoonfuls of deliciousness. And that, I'd say, is a definite win.



Confit fenugreek aubergines



Prep **15 min**
Cook **1 hr 40 min**
Serves **4-6**

750g baby aubergines – I used round ones, but the long, skinny kind will also work
400ml olive oil, plus 2 tsp extra
Fine sea salt
11 garlic cloves, skin on
3 red chillies, cut in half lengthways
1½ tsp fenugreek seeds
1 tsp ground kashmiri chilli, or paprika
5 sprigs fresh oregano
5 sprigs fresh thyme
¼ tsp caster sugar

Confit is a great way to store baby aubergines to enjoy into autumn and winter. I like them with soft cheese or yoghurt. The flavourful spiced oil also makes a great finishing touch for roast vegetables and salads.

Cut a cross in the base of each aubergine, going down all the way through to the stem but not cutting right through (you want it still attached). Rub the aubergines all over with the two extra teaspoons of oil, then sprinkle over three-quarters of a teaspoon of salt, making sure some gets inside the cuts.

Set a griddle pan on a high heat and, once it's hot, grill the aubergines in two batches for two to three minutes, turning often, until the skins are nicely charred all over. You don't want the skin to be burnt or to cook the flesh too much; the aubergines should be slightly softened but still raw. Transfer the charred aubergines to a deep, 15cm x 20cm baking dish.

Heat the oven to 160C (140C fan)/ gas 2½. Pour the remaining 400ml oil into the aubergine dish, add the garlic, chillies, fenugreek seeds, kashmiri chilli, oregano, thyme, sugar and an eighth of a teaspoon of salt, cover tightly with foil and bake for 90 minutes, gently turning the aubergines with tongs every half-hour. By the end, they should be soft but still retain their shape.

Remove from the oven, uncover and leave to cool completely. Once cool, gently spoon the aubergines, aromatics and oil into a sterilised glass jar and seal with an airtight lid.

Serve warm or at room temperature as part of a meze platter. Once jarred, they will keep in the fridge for up to a month. →

Peppered chicken and pickled watermelon salad

DF

Prep	25 min
Pickle	12 hr
Cook	15 min
Serves	2

For the watermelon

1.3kg watermelon, rind removed, flesh cut into 2cm cubes (850g)

1 jalapeño chilli (10g), cut into 3mm-thick rounds (if you prefer less heat, discard the pith and seeds)

170g caster sugar

125ml red-wine vinegar

2 camomile tea bags

2 tbsp mint leaves

Fine sea salt and black pepper

For the chicken

2 tsp mixed peppercorns

– green, white, red and black, ideally, coarsely crushed in a mortar

½ tsp Sichuan peppercorns,

coarsely crushed in a mortar (optional)

2 tbsp plain flour

1 tbsp vegetable oil

3 boneless and skinless chicken thighs

1 banana shallot, peeled and cut into thin rounds (40g)

45g watercress

1 lime, halved

This delivers on multiple fronts: salt and spice from the chicken and sweet and sharp from the pickle. Keep the excess pickle in a sterilised jar in the fridge for up to two weeks, for spooning on grilled meat or salad.

Put the diced watermelon, jalapeño and sugar in a large, sterilised jar, give it a gentle shake to coat, then leave to macerate for 20 minutes. Add the vinegar, tea bags, mint, a teaspoon of salt and 175ml water, and cover with a piece of greaseproof paper. Seal and refrigerate overnight.

Now for the chicken. Combine all the ground peppercorns in a medium bowl, and set aside a quarter-teaspoon of the mix. Add the flour and a half-teaspoon of salt to the remaining ground peppercorns.

Put the oil in a medium frying pan on a high heat. Sandwich each chicken thigh between two sheets of greaseproof paper and use a rolling pin to bash it out to ½cm thick. Coat the chicken in the pepper-flour mixture, then lay them one by one in the hot pan and fry for three minutes on each side. Transfer the cooked chicken to a board, sprinkle an eighth of a teaspoon of salt over them all, and leave to rest.

Return the pan to a medium-high heat and add 200ml of the watermelon pickling liquid; drain 175g of the pickle solids and set aside. Cook down the pickling liquid for five minutes, until it turns orange and syrupy and has reduced by four-fifths, then take off the heat.

Meanwhile, mix the shallot, watercress and drained pickle, then transfer to a large plate with a lip. Cut each chicken thigh at an angle into four slices and arrange on top of the salad. Spoon the reduced syrup over the top, sprinkle on the reserved quarter-teaspoon of ground peppercorns and serve with the lime halves for squeezing over.





Dutch baby with fig preserve and soured cream

V

Prep **20 min**
Cook **1 hr 30 min**
Cool **2 hr**
Serves **2-4**

For the preserve
10 black figs (430g), stems removed, cut in half lengthways
130g blackberries
175g caster sugar
2 fresh bay leaves
1 lemon – zest pared off in 6 fine strips, then juiced, to get 2½ tbsp

For the batter
20g unsalted butter, melted, plus 15g extra at room temperature
120ml whole milk, at room temperature
100g plain flour
20g coarse polenta
3 large eggs, at room temperature
1½ tbsp caster sugar
¼ tsp salt

For the cream
100ml double cream
2 tbsp icing sugar
3 tbsp soured cream
15g pistachios, roughly chopped

When figs are at their best, it's hard not to eat them all immediately. Preserving them, however, will extend the joy they bring, especially when spooned on to a huge, yorkshire pudding-like pancake, AKA a dutch baby. The leftover preserve will keep in the fridge for up to a month.

Put the first four ingredients in a medium pan, add 150ml water and the lemon zest, and bring to a boil. Turn the heat to medium-low and simmer for 50 minutes, stirring occasionally and taking care not to crush the fruit. Once the liquid has reduced to a loose syrup, take off the heat, stir in the lemon juice, then spoon into a sterilised jar and leave to cool. Once cool, seal and refrigerate.

Put all the batter ingredients bar the extra 15g butter in a blender,

blitz for 30 seconds until smooth, then leave to rest for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, put the double cream, a tablespoon of icing sugar and a pinch of salt in a stand mixer and whisk on high speed for 60 seconds, to soft peaks. Stir in the soured cream and refrigerate.

Heat the oven to 240C (220C fan)/ gas 9 and put in a 22cm, high-sided, ovenproof frying pan to heat up. Carefully take out the hot frying pan, drop in the extra 15g butter and swirl it around so it melts and covers the base. Pour in the batter, return the pan to the oven and bake for 18 minutes, until puffed up and golden.

Remove and spoon 175g of the preserve into the well in the centre. Spoon the cream mix alongside, dust with the final tablespoon of icing sugar, sprinkle over the nuts and serve while it's still hot.



Sainsbury's

Helping everyone eat better

150 fresh
products
price
matched
to Aldi.



Prices and products correct at time of print. Prices matched pro rata vs Aldi GB, checked twice weekly. Aldi may sell other products at differing prices. Price match available in selected stores, subject to availability, excludes promotions, Locals and NI. Number of products available varies by store and online. To verify [sainsbury's.co.uk/aldi-price-match](https://www.sainsbury's.co.uk/aldi-price-match)

Thomasina Miers

The new flexitarian



Tomatoes are certainly one of the most versatile fruits: raw or roast, poached or pureed, you could make infinite salsas and sauces with them. We can get beautiful homegrown ones in the UK now, so make the most of them with this aromatic jam. It transforms a sandwich or cheese plate, or makes for this simple supper, which also celebrates the summer's greens.

Greens on toast with late-summer tomato jam

V

Prep **25 min**
Cook **50 min**
Serves **2-4**

250g chard or large leaf spinach
4 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
3 large garlic cloves, peeled and sliced
250g ricotta
Juice and zest of ½ lemon
4 slices sourdough

For the jam

1kg tomatoes, halved
1 onion, peeled and cut into wedges
2 tbsp olive oil
Salt and black pepper
1-2 red chillies, to taste
4 garlic cloves, unpeeled
75g soft brown sugar
100ml red-wine vinegar
2 bay leaves
1 tbsp coriander seeds
1 star anise

Heat the oven to 200C (180C fan)/ gas 6. Line a baking tray with foil and lay the tomatoes cut side down on top. Put the onion wedges in the gaps, drizzle the lot with oil and season. Roast for 25 minutes, add the chilli and garlic, and roast for 25 minutes more, until collapsed and slightly jammy. Meanwhile, clean a few jars and, 10 minutes before the end of the cooking time, turn off the oven (leaving the tomatoes inside) and put the jars inside to sterilise.

Put the sugar, vinegar, bay and spices in a large pan on a medium heat. Squeeze the roast garlic flesh out of the skins, roughly chop the chilli and add both to the pan. Stir in the tomatoes and onion, bring to a boil, then simmer on a medium-high heat for 12-15 minutes, stirring now and then so it doesn't catch. Blitz roughly with a stick blender, keeping some texture to the jam - it is ready now, but will improve if you simmer it for another half-hour.

Meanwhile, wash the greens in cold water and cut the leaves into wide ribbons (if using chard, finely chop the stalks, too). Put a large pan on a medium heat, add half the oil and the sliced garlic, and saute, stirring, for a minute. Add the chard stalks, if using, saute for a few minutes, then add the leaves, cover and cook on a low heat for eight to 10 minutes, until wilted. Season well.

Whip the ricotta, season generously and add the remaining oil, the lemon zest and juice. Toast the bread, leave to cool a little, then spread with the ricotta. Top with the greens, spoon on some jam and eat at once.

The simple flex

There are many plant-based ricottas, but you could also top the toasts with a green mole instead, made with soaked almonds blitzed with a big handful of soft herbs and a little olive oil.





Aika Levins

Fusion barbecue



At home, I nearly always prefer to cook something easy, and invariably turn to the comforting Japanese flavours of my childhood. Since starting work at the Barbary in London, however, I often find myself incorporating live-fire cooking and the flavours of the Middle East and north Africa. These are the sort of dishes I make at home for an impromptu barbecue; simple food that packs a punch, but with minimal prep, so you can spend more time with your guests.

Glazed chicken skewers

DF

Prep	15 min
Cook	15 min
Makes	12 skewers

400g boneless skinless chicken thighs
Salt and white pepper
1 bunch spring onions, trimmed and cut into 2cm lengths, green tops reserved and thinly sliced to garnish
35ml oyster sauce
35ml pomegranate molasses
15ml rice vinegar

These are also good made with a meaty fish (monkfish works particularly well) or substitute the chicken for king oyster mushrooms and use vegetarian mushroom sauce instead of oyster sauce. You could also cook the skewers in a griddle pan on the hob for three to four minutes a side, glazing frequently as in the method below.

Cut the chicken into roughly 2cm bite-sized cubes and season lightly

with salt and white pepper. Thread on to 12 skewers, alternating the pieces of chicken with the spring onion.

For the glaze, mix the oyster sauce, pomegranate molasses and rice vinegar.

Grill the skewers on a medium-high heat for three to four minutes on each side, glazing after the first turn (a pastry brush is useful here). Continue turning and basting the skewers for about another minute, until the chicken is cooked through and has a lacquered glaze. Remove from the grill and serve garnished with thinly sliced spring onion tops, if desired.

Sesame and seaweed flatbreads

V

Prep	15 min
Cook	10 min
Makes	6

350g self-raising flour, plus a little extra for dusting
½ tsp fine salt
½ tbsp baking powder
20g black and/or white sesame seeds
2 sheets nori seaweed, crushed (tear into small pieces, then rub between your palms, or blitz briefly)
350ml natural yoghurt
Toasted sesame oil, to finish (optional)

These quick flatbreads require no yeast, making them an ideal side for any meal. I like to use a mix of white and black sesame seeds for colour and texture, but you could easily play around with the flavours, depending on what you're serving them with. The breads can

also be cooked in a pan on the hob.

Mix the flour, salt, baking powder, sesame seeds and nori in a bowl. Add the yoghurt and mix until just combined; you aren't trying to develop the gluten, so be careful not to overwork the mix or the dough might be tough.

Divide the dough into six even portions and roll each one into a round about ¾cm thick. Grill on the barbecue on a medium heat until lightly charred and cooked through. If you like, brush with toasted sesame oil to finish.

Smacked cucumber and radish salad on tahini

V VG DF

Prep	30 min
Marinate	30 min+
Serves	4

100g tahini
A squeeze of lemon
Salt
1 large cucumber
250g radishes
40ml soy sauce
40ml Chinkiang black vinegar, or rice vinegar
½ tsp caster sugar
1 small garlic clove, peeled and finely grated
Crispy chilli oil

The smacking of vegetables is a Chinese technique that not only breaks them down into bite-sized pieces, but also bruises them so they soak up the dressing better, and gives them rough, uneven edges that help catch the sauce. Use rice vinegar if you can't find Chinkiang black vinegar, which is widely available from Asian grocers.

To make the sauce, put the tahini in a bowl and stir in 70ml water and a squeeze of lemon. To begin with, it will look as if you've made a mistake, but as you start to incorporate the water into the tahini, it will form a thick sauce. Season to taste with salt and put in the fridge.

Cut the cucumber into roughly 4cm lengths and lightly smack them with a rolling pin to break into chunks. You may need to break the pieces down a little further by tearing them into bite-sized pieces by hand. Give the radishes the same treatment, cracking them in half with the rolling pin.

In a bowl, mix the soy sauce, black vinegar, sugar and garlic, then add the cucumber and radishes, and stir to coat. Leave to marinate for 30 or so minutes (or up to a few hours), stirring every so often.

To serve, spread the tahini sauce on a plate, and top with the cucumber and radishes, leaving most of the pickling liquor behind. Drizzle with as much crispy chilli as you dare, and serve.

Aika Levins is sous chef at The Barbary Next Door, London WC2

PHOTOGRAPH: LIZZIE MAYSON/THE GUARDIAN. FOOD AND PROP STYLING: KITTY COLES. FOOD ASSISTANT: FLORENCE BLAIR



Meera Sodha

The new vegan



Some people have quite big epiphanies, but not me. I had two small ones recently, though. The first was that I don't much like the taste of vegetable stock. I appreciate what it's trying to do, but if you add too much, in an instant, there is no return. This led to my second small-but-illuminating discovery, namely that Marmite makes great stock and, well, here we are. This risotto, contrary to what you might assume, is perfectly gentle (the Marmite is a back note); the party is in the tomato and chilli butter, in which I've used crispy chilli oil to give tomatoes some fireworks.

Marmite risotto with tomato and crispy chilli butter



Prep 10 min

Cook 45 min

Serves 4

For the butter

550g cherry tomatoes, halved
1 tbsp olive oil
¼ tsp salt
30g non-dairy butter, unsalted
2 tbsp crispy chilli oil sediment

For the risotto

50g non-dairy butter, unsalted
2 tbsp olive oil
1 large onion, peeled and finely chopped
1 tsp fine sea salt
3 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
350g arborio rice
175ml dry white wine
4 tsp Marmite (33g), dissolved in 1.1 litres just-boiled water

Any crispy chilli oil would work, but my favourite, by Laoganma, can be found in the world food aisle of larger supermarkets, as well as in Chinese grocery stores and online.

Heat the oven to 200C (180C fan)/ gas 6 and line an oven tray with baking paper. Put the tomatoes on the tray, coat with the tablespoon of olive oil and sprinkle over the salt. Bake for 35 minutes, turning once halfway, until crumpled, sticky and browning (but not burnt). Remove and leave to cool.

To make the chilli butter, heat the butter and crispy chilli sediment in a small saucepan and, when the butter has melted, mix in the tomatoes, take off the heat and put to one side.

Now for the risotto. Put 25g butter and all the olive oil in a medium pan on a medium heat, add the onion and a teaspoon of salt, and fry, stirring regularly, for eight minutes, until soft, translucent and golden (but not browning). Add the garlic, cook for two minutes, then stir in the rice to coat. Pour in the wine, let it sizzle away, then add a of Marmite stock. Cook, stirring gently and regularly, until the stock is absorbed by the rice, then add another ladle of stock and repeat. Carry on cooking and adding stock, until the rice is tender and the risotto very creamy (rather than too stiff or too loose), which may take up to 30 minutes (if you run out of stock, add some just-boiled water instead).

Take off the heat, stir through the remaining 25g butter and serve at once. If you have to leave it a few minutes before serving, you may need to add a splash of water to loosen the risotto. To serve, dollop into shallow bowls and put a couple of large spoonfuls of tomato chilli butter in the centre of each portion.



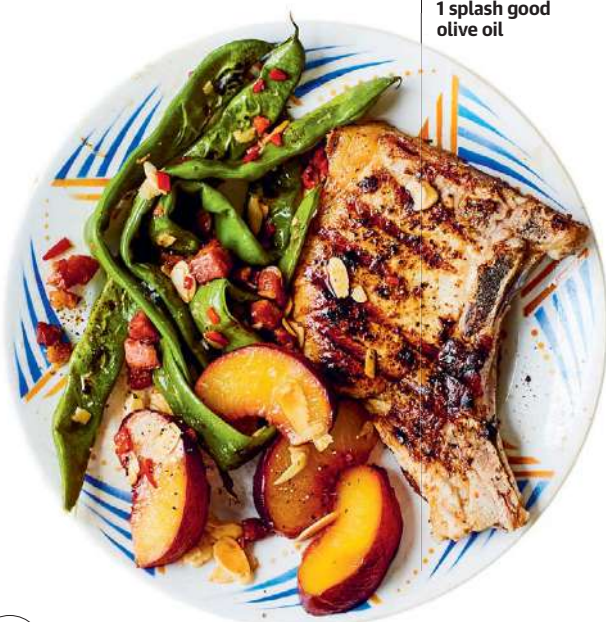
James Mossman

Savoury cooking with summer fruit



It's late summer, and with that comes arguably some of the finest produce:

intensely sweet fruit such as peaches and greengages, which can be incorporated into our savoury cooking. Paired with bold, rich meat or fish, the fruit comes alive and becomes the star of the show. These dishes are to be enjoyed while taking in the last of the summer warmth, with a glass of wine and in the company of friends and family.



GF DF

Prep **15 min**
Marinate **8 hr +**
Cook **20 min**
Serves **4**

For the pork
4 x 300g pork chops, rinds removed
4-6 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
4 tbsp good olive oil
A few thyme sprigs, picked and chopped
1 tsp dried chilli flakes
Salt

To finish
50g flaked almonds
150g smoked pancetta, diced
1 tbsp sugar
2 ripe peaches, halved and stoned
400g runner beans, kept whole, lightly blanched for 2 minutes in lightly salted boiling water, then refreshed under cold running water
2 red chillies, deseeded and chopped
1 splash white-wine vinegar
1 splash good olive oil

Pork chops with pancetta, peach and runner beans

Put the chops in a deep-sided dish, scatter over the garlic, olive oil, thyme and chilli flakes, then cover and put in the fridge to marinate for eight hours, or overnight.

The next day, spread the flaked almonds on an oven tray and toast in a 190C (170C fan)/gas 5 oven for five or so minutes, until lightly golden. Meanwhile, fry the pancetta in a dry frying pan, stirring often, for four or five minutes, until the fat renders out and the pancetta is coloured all over. Use a slotted spoon to transfer the pancetta to a small bowl or plate, keeping as much fat in the pan as possible - you'll use this later to dress the beans.

Season the chops generously with salt, and grill (or barbecue) on a medium-high heat for five to six minutes on each side, until cooked through (take care not to burn them). Transfer the chops to a plate or board to rest.

Meanwhile, sprinkle the sugar on the cut side of the peaches and grill cut side up (or barbecue cut side down) for two minutes. Turn and grill on the other side, then set aside at room temperature. Grill the runner beans for a minute or two on each side, just until they take on a little colour, add them to the warm oil in the pancetta pan along with the chilli, almonds and the reserved fried pancetta, and toss to coat.

Cut the grilled peaches into wedges and dress with a little vinegar and oil. Arrange the beans on a serving dish, lay the pork chops on top and serve surrounded by the peach wedges.





PHOTOGRAPHS: LIZZIE MAYSON/THE GUARDIAN. FOOD AND PROP STYLING: KITTY COLES. FOOD ASSISTANT: FLORENCE BLAIR

Mackerel, greengages and slaw

GF

Prep	15 min
Chill	1 hr+
Cook	15 min
Serves	4

For the fish

4 x 150g mackerel fillets, or 8 smaller ones
3 tbsp sunflower oil, plus a little extra for the greengages
1½ tsp fennel seeds, lightly crushed
¾ tsp crushed chilli flakes
¾ tsp nigella seeds
2 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
Salt and black pepper
4 greengages

For the slaw

½ pointed hispi cabbage, shredded
1 red chilli, deseeded and finely diced
½ fennel bulb, trimmed and thinly sliced
100ml buttermilk
Juice of ½ lemon
1 bunch dill, chopped
A few parsley sprigs, chopped

Put the fish on a baking tray, pour over the oil, then sprinkle over the spices, garlic, half a teaspoon of salt and a pinch of ground black pepper. Toss to coat, then chill for an hour or two.

Turn on the grill to high (or light the barbecue). In the meantime, put all the slaw ingredients and a half-teaspoon of salt in a bowl, mix, then adjust the seasoning to taste.

Cut the greengages in half and lightly oil them. Grill cut side up (or barbecue cut side down) for three or four minutes, until softened and lightly scorched, then set aside.

Grill the mackerel skin side up (or barbecue it skin side down) for two minutes, then flip and cook for just a minute on the flesh side. Squeeze a little lemon over the fish, then transfer to four plates. Serve each portion with two greengage halves and a stack of slaw alongside.

The Guardian aims to publish recipes for fish rated as sustainable by the Marine Conservation Society's Good Fish Guide.

James Mossman is head chef of 10 Greek Street, London W1, which this year celebrates its 10th anniversary

**The
Guardian**
Podcasts

Season 3



Comfort Eating *with Grace Dent*

Supported by
Cocado

Help yourself to thirds

You might not realise it, but food can reveal a lot about your story ... and your favourite celebs' stories too.

Join the Guardian's restaurant critic and Comfort Eating host Grace Dent with celebrity guests (including James May, Self Esteem and Big Zuu), as she throws the cupboard doors wide open on friendship, family - and the foods that have seen them through it all.

Apple Podcasts | Google Podcasts | Spotify | Listen on amazon music

Listen wherever you get your podcasts

Kate Hawkings

There's more to spritz than Aperol

The Aperol spritz is one of the most successful marketing phenomena of modern times. Given a huge publicity push only six years ago, it's now one of the world's most popular cocktails, instantly recognisable by its look-at-me-look-at-me, neon-orange colour (ideal for the Instagram age, don't you know).

It's an easy drink to like, too, especially in the sunshine. Refreshing and with a gentle, appetising bitterness, it's also very easy to make – the classic recipe is a memorable 3:2:1 (three parts prosecco to two of Aperol and one of soda), and served over ice in a wine glass or tumbler. But Aperol is not the only base for a spritz, and some (myself included) think many of the alternatives make a better, more sophisticated choice to toast the tail end of summer.

Four alternative bases for spritz

Italicus Rosolio di

Bergamotto £30 (70cl) Waitrose, 20%. An 18th-century bitter with lemon, camomile and lavender



Select £17 (70cl) Ocado, 17.5%. The amaro of choice for Venetians, usually served with a green olive to add a saline twang



Venice Aperitivo £20 (75cl) The Aperitivo Co, 16%. A new homage to Aperol, with lovely layers of grapefruit and hibiscus



St Germain Elderflower Liqueur £22 (50cl) Majestic, 20%. Garnish your spritz with mint and lime to make a Hugo



Aperol is an *amaro*, a family of spirit-based bitters that includes Campari, Select and Cynar, all of which I prefer to Aperol in spritz, because they're more bitter and less sweet, and, to my middle-aged eye, have a more appealing colour.

The spritz itself has its roots in northern Italy, going back more than a century, when soldiers from the occupying Austro-Hungarian empire liked to add water to the local wine, and it is still the signature *aperitivo* of Venice. Away from the tourist traps there, it is most often made with Select, and in the most authentic *bacari* you'll be asked if you want it *internazionale* (made with prosecco) or *Veneziano* (with still white wine, as is more traditional).

The basic spritz formula can be adapted almost endlessly by substituting the amaro with other things. Sweet vermouth works well, whether it's a cheap-and-cheerful, trusted brand such as Martini Rosso, or one of the more serious vermouths now on the market – try Vault's Forest Red (£28 for 70cl from vaultaperitivo.com, 16.6%) or Lustau's Vermut Blanco (£13.49 for 50cl, Waitrose), an off-dry white vermouth made with a sherry base.

You can even experiment with those random liqueurs gathering dust on your shelves. A Capri spritz, say, using limoncello, has a certain on-holiday charm, while more outlandish possibilities include triple sec, amaretto, cherry brandy and hazelnut liqueur. Play around with the proportions to get the right balance and garnish with whatever feels right: a slice of orange is the most usual, but I prefer the sapidity of a green olive.

Kate Hawkings' new book, *The Little Book of Aperitifs*, is published next month by Quadrille at £10. Order a copy for £9.30 at guardianbookshop.com. Fiona Beckett returns next week



The good mixer

Corsica spritz

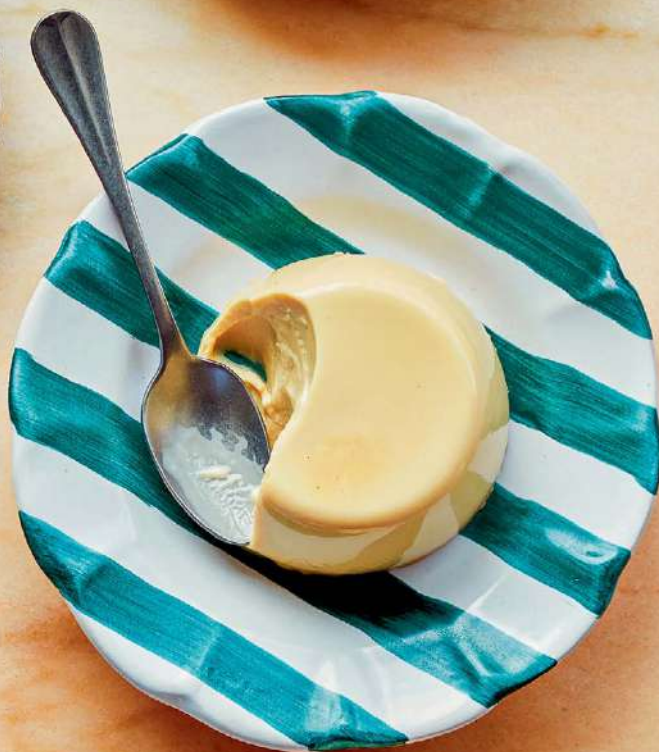
Serves 1

30ml Aperol
30ml elderflower liqueur – I use St Germain
30ml white vermouth – Lillet Blanc or Martini Bianco, for preference
100ml tonic water – I use Fever-Tree Mediterranean
1 strawberry, hulled and sliced, to garnish
1 mint sprig, to garnish

Aperol spritz gets a makeover in this long, refreshing drink for a warm, late summer's evening.

Put the Aperol, elderflower liqueur and vermouth in a highball glass, add plenty of ice (cubes or crushed) and give everything a good stir. Top with the tonic, garnish with the sliced strawberry and mint, then sit back and enjoy.

Jiraphong Reeves, bar manager, Number Eight, Sevenoaks, Kent



Ravneet Gill

The sweet spot



Cream on cream is never a bad thing, and today's recipe is a shining example of why. This malt panna cotta is not only a thing of beauty, but also the perfect thing for friends who claim not to like chocolate desserts. It's rich without being sickly sweet, with a tuile biscuit that helps to pull the whole dessert together.



Malt panna cotta, chocolate tuile and cream

Prep	5 min
Cook	15 min
Set	4 hr+
Makes	3 x 175ml darioles

2½ gelatine leaves
300ml double cream
100ml whole milk
50g malt extract
30g caster sugar
A pinch of salt

For the tuile
30g unsalted
butter, softened
30g icing sugar
1 egg white (30g)
15g cocoa powder
25g plain flour
A pinch of salt
10g cacao nibs
100ml double
cream, to serve

Set these in dariole moulds before tipping them out on to plates and pouring cold cream on top. Alternatively, set them in glasses and top with a splash of cream.

Fill a bowl with ice-cold water, add the gelatine and leave to soften for five to 10 minutes. When they are completely soft, squeeze out the excess water and set aside the leaves.

In a saucepan, warm the cream, milk, malt extract, sugar and salt until steaming, then take off the heat and whisk in the softened gelatine until it dissolves. Leave to cool briefly, then decant into glasses or dariole moulds. Set aside to cool to room temperature, then chill for four hours or overnight.

For the tuile, heat the oven to 180C (160C fan)/gas 4. In a bowl, gently beat the butter until completely smooth, add the icing sugar and mix well. Beat in the egg white, then mix in the cocoa powder, flour and salt until combined. Cut a sheet of baking paper to fit a flat baking tray (or use a silicone mat) and spread the tuile mixture evenly on top (use a cranked palette knife, if you have one). Sprinkle the cacao nibs all over, then bake for seven to 12 minutes, until the tuile is dry to the touch and lifts easily off the paper. It should snap and be inflexible.

Leave the tuile to cool completely, then break into shards. Unmould the panna cottas on to dessert plates - briefly dip the base of each mould in hot water, then flip it over and give it a firm shake so it releases. Drizzle with cold cream and serve topped with some tuile shards.

Felicity Cloake

Masterclass: plum clafoutis



This French dessert comes in many forms, from crisp, Yorkshire pudding-like creations to custardy flans sold cold by the slice, but all come topped with a layer of seasonal fruit (though, strictly speaking, anything without cherries is a *flognarde*). This deliciously rich, plum-and-almond version, inspired by the three-star chef Guy Savoy's recipe, also handily happens to be gluten-free.



Prep **20 min**
Cook **45 min**
Serves **6**

300g plums (about 10-12)
Butter, to grease
2 tbsp demerara sugar (optional)
50g cornflour
100g ground almonds
A pinch of salt
¼ tsp mixed spice, or nutmeg or cinnamon (optional)
3 eggs
100g caster sugar
300g full-fat crème fraîche (see step 6)
100ml whole milk

1 Choosing the fruit

You could use cherries for this instead of plums (indeed, Monsieur Savoy does) though you may well need more to fill the dish. I don't bother to stone cherries for this, as much because it slows down the subsequent feeding frenzy as because the stones are said to add flavour to the finished pudding, but do make sure you warn guests if you follow suit.

2 Other alternatives

Indeed, almost any fruit that's in season, or that you happen to have in the freezer, will work a treat in a clafoutis, though very juicy and acidic berries, such as blackberries and raspberries, can run into the batter and affect the cake's consistency (the results are still extremely tasty, though). Cut larger fruit in half or into wedges, and toss juicier ones in a little cornflour to minimise leakage.

4 Mix the cornflour, almonds, salt and any spices, then whisk into beaten eggs until combined



3 Wash, halve and stone the plums. Grease a baking dish with butter, then dust with demerara sugar to cover



3 Prepare the plums and dish

Heat the oven to 180C (160C fan)/ gas 4. Wash the plums, remove any stems, then cut in half and take out the stones. Arrange the halves cut side up in a roughly 24cm-diameter round baking dish (or similar) - this is to see if you need all the fruit - then remove and put on a tea towel to dry. Grease the dish generously with butter, then sprinkle it with demerara sugar, if using.

4 Mix the dry ingredients

Put the cornflour, almonds, salt and spice, if using, into a bowl and whisk briefly to break up any lumps. Other flavouring ideas include a quarter-teaspoon of ground cardamom or ginger, a dash of vanilla or almond extract, or the grated zest of an unwaxed orange, all of which should be added to the batter along with the milk.

5 Add to the beaten eggs

Crack the eggs into a large bowl and beat, then add the caster sugar and continue to beat vigorously until the two are well combined and the mixture starts to pale slightly in colour. Beat in the ground almond mixture until no pockets of dry ingredient remain.

6 Finish the batter

Stir in the creme fraiche - you could substitute whipping or double cream, if you prefer, but good creme fraiche will give your clafoutis a delicious, slightly tangy flavour that works really well with the plums. Look for one with a fat content of about 40%; the thick, yellow Norman sort is ideal, rather than the watery versions favoured by some British supermarkets. Finally, stir in the milk.

7 Assemble the clafoutis

Pour the batter into the greased baking dish, then gently drop the plums cut side up on top; this may seem more faff than simply putting them in the dish before pouring over the batter, but it means the fruit won't be fully submerged. (If it does sink, the clafoutis will still be delicious, but it won't look as pretty.)

8 Bake until just set

Bake for about 45 minutes, until the batter has turned lightly golden in the middle and darker around the sides, and the plums are nicely caramelised. A careful prod (remember, it will be *very* hot) should reveal it to be just-firm in the centre, rather than wobbly and liquid.

9 Leave to cool, then serve

Remove from the oven and leave to cool to warm or room temperature before serving, because, hot out of the oven, it will taste of very little. To be honest, this particular clafoutis is rich enough on its own, but, for the pleasure of contrast, it's also extremely nice served with more creme fraiche cold from the fridge, ice-cream or single cream.

6 Mix in the creme fraiche and milk, then pour the batter into the prepared dish and drop in the plums cut side up



8 Bake until just set and golden, then leave to cool to room temperature before serving with cream or ice-cream

Kitchen aide

Hot topic: which type of chilli in which dishes?

Are chillies interchangeable? I never know which variety to use, and when to go for fresh, dried, powder or flakes.

Emily, London E2

"The thing is," says Adriana Cavita, chef-owner of Cavita in London, "we have hundreds of varieties of chillies in Mexico - there's so much choice." And that's before considering those grown in other parts of the world (India, Thailand, Spain, for example). While this offers ample opportunity to get creative, it's no wonder Emily is confused.

Different chillies perform different roles in cooking, and they're not just about heat; chillies bring sweet, sour, fruity, earthy and smoky notes, too. So you need to understand why a chilli is there in the first place before switching it for an alternative. "Look at the dish as a whole and assess," says Noor Murad, head of the Ottolenghi Test Kitchen and co-author of *Extra Good Things*, out this month. "For stews and broths, you can generally go with whatever dried chillies you like," she adds, depending on the heat. "If, for example, the recipe calls for habanero or scotch bonnet, and you're like, 'Hell, no', use a milder chilli such as kashmiri or guajillo."

But when should you use dried and when fresh? Self-confessed chilli obsessive Chet Sharma, chef-patron of Bibi in London, has some guidelines: "If you think of traditional north-Indian foods - heavier curries, dals, butter chicken - they're all made with dried red chilli. But for brighter flavours - southern Indian or Thai - you want something vibrant and zingy, and that you'll get from fresh chillies."

And what about varieties? Sharma's fresh chilli preference would be small, spicy, Indian green chillies ("sometimes sold as finger chillies"), while Murad uses "the

ones labelled 'red' and 'green' at the greengrocers" for stir-fries, homemade hot sauce and pickles for salads. Cavita favours jalapeños and poblanos for guacamole, salsa, roast tomato sauce and, in the case of poblanos, for stuffing (with mince or veg). Size is also a factor: "The smaller the chilli, the spicier it will tend to be," Cavita says. Thai, bird's-eye and scotch bonnet are among the hottest around.

Once dried, a chilli's flavour intensifies. Ancho, chipotle, pasilla and guajillo all work well in pastes, rubs and sauces: "Ancho is more earthy and tobacco-y," Murad says, "but if I want something smoky or fruity, I go for cascabel or chipotle." Cavita uses powdered pasilla, chipotle and ancho for marinades and dressings. Sharma also keeps three powders in his arsenal: kashmiri red chilli ("for colour and flavour without lots of heat"), deggi ("slightly spicier, but more rounded") and yellow chilli ("very hot, but super-fruity"). Those should be used in anything cooked low and slow, "whether that's curries or things braised in the oven".

Finally, Murad reserves chilli flakes for sauces and for sprinkling on pizzas - but err on the side of caution: "You never know how hot they're going to be, so start with less and add more only if you need." After all, this isn't a chilli-eating competition.

Anna Berrill

Got a culinary dilemma? Email feast@theguardian.com



Waste not ... Wilted herbs

Tom Hunt

Picada is a traditional Catalan seasoning made by pounding stale bread, garlic, parsley and nuts in a mortar. The crumble-like mixture is then added to stews or sauces near the end of the cooking process, to thicken and add flavour. It's a great way to use up stale bread and wilted herbs, which get cooked into the sauce and give it a huge boost.

Venison and mushroom stew with chocolate and orange picada

Melt 50g butter in a large, heavy casserole dish on a medium heat. Fry 400g diced venison or lamb shoulder until browned all over, then add 400g sliced flat mushrooms, a roughly chopped onion, a carrot cut into rounds and three cloves of minced garlic. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 15 minutes, then pour in 300ml red wine, bring to a bubble and deglaze the pan. Add 150ml water and two rosemary sprigs, bring back to a boil, then turn down the heat and simmer gently for 30 minutes. Cover and transfer to a 170C (150C fan)/gas 3 oven for two hours, until the meat is very tender. Meanwhile, make the picada. Soak a stale slice of bread in water for a few seconds, then squeeze out and rip into pieces. Crush a peeled garlic clove with a little salt in a mortar, then grind in five walnuts and three sprigs of finely chopped flat-leaf parsley (including the stalks). Stir in the bread, 10g grated dark chocolate, a teaspoon of grated orange zest and a little pepper. When the stew is ready, sprinkle the picada over the top and return to the oven uncovered for 15 minutes to thicken. Serve with mash or soft polenta.

Printed at Walstead Group, Peterborough PE1 5YS

Rachel Roddy

Tales from an Italian kitchen



Meringata - meringue with cream, fruit and toasted almonds

We used to pass the via Acaia branch of the San Crispino *gelateria* when we drove back from the airport. So I associate it with delays, and with ice-cream to make up for lost luggage.

Cool and with no frills, there was more counter than shop, and the *gelati* were protected by silver lids. Lids imply confidence - that it is so sure about what it does that it doesn't need to pile it up and show it off.

San Crispino divides its *gelati* into three groups: creams, which are custard-based; pure fruit *sorbetti*; and *gelati* with meringues, which have brittle bits. Many people seem to agree that, in the late 1980s, with its techniques, rigour and attention to ingredients, San Crispino changed gelato in Rome. Also that it remains excellent.

Once, in late August 2011, not long before my due date, I decided against our local - also excellent - *gelateria* and walked to via Acaia. It's a few kilometres away, a good part of which is beside a dual carriageway, but the only thing I wanted to eat was their pear and zabaione gelato. I ate three scoops immediately, then bought a tub to take away, interested to see how the Styrofoam would cope on such a hot day. I never found out, because a neighbour saw me walking slowly back and gave me a lift. Years later, he admitted that driving me across the hot city, heavily pregnant and with a large tub of ice-cream, was one of the most stressful drives of his life.

One day, I should tell him that he is in part responsible for today's recipe. Had he not got us home safely, I wouldn't have sat at the table waiting for something to happen while eating pear, zabaione and meringue - a



heavenly combination that I am now writing about here.

Thanks, too, to Yotam Ottolenghi, whose suggestion of warming the sugar is a meringue-changer. This isn't too much of a detour, because the oven needs to be heated to bake the meringues anyway.

Spread 360g caster sugar on a baking tray lined with greaseproof paper and bake at 150C (130C fan)/gas 2 for eight minutes, or until the sugar is warm and the edges just - but only just - start to melt. Once the sugar is out, turn down the

oven to 110C (90C fan)/gas ¼ in preparation for baking.

A stand mixer or handheld electric whisk is essential. Start by whisking six egg whites until they are gently foamy, then slowly, and whisking constantly, add the warmed sugar until incorporated. If you have a stand mixer, leave it to whisk away for 10 minutes; if you don't, stand there electric-whisking for 10 minutes, or until the mixture is thick and shiny.

If your lined baking tray is large enough, spread the meringue into two dinner plate-sized circles, or use two baking trays. Bake in the low oven for 80 minutes, or until the circles are dry and set firm, then leave to cool before carefully peeling off the paper.

To decorate, you need about 300g thick or whipping cream, 100g toasted almonds and some fruit. I think sliced pear halves in syrup work brilliantly here, because they have a particular texture - plump and slightly grainy.

To assemble, put a circle of meringue on a large plate, spread with two-thirds of the cream, and on that arrange a fan of sliced fruit sprinkled with half the almonds. Top with the second circle of meringue, then, using a palette knife, spread the sides (not the top) with the remaining cream and press the remaining almonds into it.

I don't know when exactly, but the via Acaia branch of San Crispino closed. We drove past one day and it looked different. Still a *gelateria*, but not San Crispino. We knew there were other branches, but we missed it for a bit - car nostalgia. Remember the time the shampoo exploded and leaked out of the zip and you had four scoops? Or, driving home holding Styrofoam, with a neighbour who had panic in his eyes.

Say it with layers: circles of meringue sandwiched together with cream, sliced pear and toasted almonds

Grace Dent

'Theatre, pacing and exquisite attention to detail'



PHOTOGRAPHS: JAMES BYRNE/THE GUARDIAN



Solstice arrived on Newcastle's Quayside at the start of summer. It took root on the Side, one of the few medieval streets left in Tyneside, which also boasts The Crown Posada pub, said to be about 240 years old. Newcastle is a brilliant and often overlooked city. When I was a child, on our pilgrimages from Carlisle some 60 miles away, it felt a bit like Manhattan: we'd eat stotties and Tudor crisps, then ransack Geordie Jeans for the latest ice-wash skin-tights. Coming back years later to visit Solstice by Kenny Atkinson is a considerably more refined experience.

Atkinson also owns the Michelin-

starred House of Tides a quick amble away along Quayside, where he dishes up fine dining in a semi-casual atmosphere. At Solstice, however, the sky is the limit, and he has full licence to unleash his imagination and intentions to wow. This isn't just fine dining; it is an 18-course, three-hour tip-toe through dishes so ornately and painstakingly prepared that at times it feels a shame to eat them. All that work, deliberation and manpower for a few blissful seconds during which I open my mouth like a boa constrictor and allow the most exquisite burst of silky, pungent cod's roe, ensconced in a seaweed-green

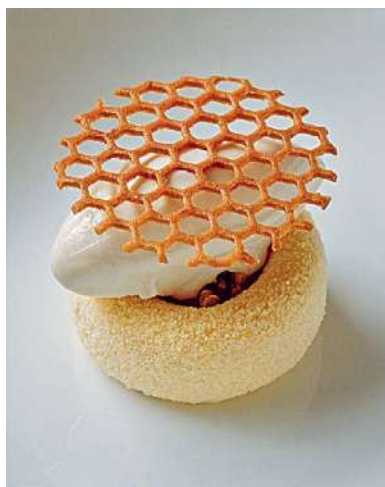
Solstice

5-7 The Side, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1, 0191-222 1722. Open lunch Fri, sitting from noon-1pm, dinner Tues-Fri 7-8pm; £140-a-head tasting menu only (wine pairing £85), plus drinks and service

cracker and dotted with lemon verbena gel, to glide down my throat. Or a beer-laced croustade casing filled with the softest goat's curd puree, topped with lush, green peas and garnished with pickled wild garlic capers, mint gel and chive flowers ... oh, yes, and calendula leaves, too, though if I'm being 100% honest, the ingredients and genesis of each dish come at you so thick and fast, it can't all help but be something of a blur.

Solstice is a sedate single room with a mere 14 seats, all of which are taken on a Tuesday night in late August, despite the news headlines being dominated by financial gloom. The couple behind me were on a big wedding anniversary - one they both cheerfully described as "more of a life sentence" - before settling into a glorious evening of fine wine, great food and finishing each other's jokes. There will, I feel, always be a place for the kind of cooking Atkinson and his ilk yearn to deliver, because it is special food for the most special of special occasions.

Solstice serves a tiny taste of fine mackerel topped with gooseberry gel and nasturtium, and the richest



squab pigeon and veal sweetbreads. You wouldn't want to eat like this even twice a month, but, as a rare treat, such experiences rouse parts of the brain and palate that beige carbs just can't quite reach. Yes, dinner takes an age, but it totters along merrily, with chefs feeding you first tiny tastes of exquisite tomato churros with consommé in dinky, magnetic espresso cups, followed by the butteriest warm oyster in its shell topped with caviar, before moving on to the heavier hitters. Yes, more caviar - rather a lot of Petrossian, in fact - featured as the topping for a dreamy smoked eel and potato cream that came with chicken skin crackers.

The highlight for me, I think, was a chunky slab of fragrant langoustine with the most peculiar-looking purple potato tart hewn from langoustine claw and festooned in herbs and flowers (pictured top). But then again, I should also mention the lamb course, which turned up with a voluminous mini-loaf all glossy with lamb fat and express instructions to use it to mop up the delightful gravy.

By this point, my spy work on the other customers had detected four



chefs enjoying their nights off and at least three anniversaries. Plus, of course, me and Charles, for whom each day must feel like Christmas. As our dinner reached the sweet end of proceedings, I was concerned that this is where it would all go a bit "pear poached in sap" and "fragments of yeast", because the titivations of a tasting menu do not often lend themselves to the pudding course. I was very wrong: there is a perfect, pretty-yet-bizarre-looking dessert of local honey delivered at least six ways (below, far left), plus a plate of petits fours with shaved truffle, apple and dark chocolate that would sate even the sweetest tooth.

All incredibly long tasting menus are not built equally. For every Ynyshir, Moor Hall or Ikoyi - and Solstice is easily as impressive as those three - there are others that keep you hostage for hours, offering endless edible gold leaf and interminable pauses, and leaving you hungrier when you leave than you were when you arrived. That's why I appreciate the theatre, the pacing and the exquisite attention to detail of the likes of Solstice. Winter may indeed be coming, but this place is celebrating the light.

Instafeed



My survival plan for winter 2022: 4pm mugs of Fortnum's hot chocolate daily



The dessert section at the Grove in Chandler's Cross, Hertfordshire, includes strawberry trifle bliss

@gracedent



Create a recipe compendium with our stylish Feast folders

With space for up to six months' worth of the Guardian's weekly cookbook, our Feast folders are the perfect place to store your favourite recipes



**Exclusively
at the
Guardian
Bookshop**

Order now for £12.99

**Visit guardianbookshop.com
or call 020 3176 3837**

Delivery charges may apply. For more information visit the Guardian Bookshop website.

**The
Guardian
Bookshop**

SATURDAY

The Guardian

ISSUE Nº50 | 10 SEPTEMBER 2022



SEX AND THE CITIES

A global love and romance special, featuring *Blind Dates* from Paris to Sydney

PAGE 22

Tonight, Charlie's making dinner



Put your feet up tonight and let Charlie make you a delicious, home-cooked meal, with only the freshest ingredients. So, all you have to do is pop into your local supermarket and pick the Charlie Bigham's dish that you fancy.



Charlie Bigham's
Obsession is my secret ingredient

5

CUTTINGS
Pages.....5-13

Smart shot
Boys in the Blue Lagoon
P5

Should Sunday opening restrictions loosen up?
Coco Khan asks the experts the big questions
P7

Down the rabbit hole
Lost in the flow of fashion week
P7

Flashback
Joe Sugg (below) steps back in time, to being an extra in a period drama
P8

Dining across the divide
Will two strangers “as far apart politically as it’s possible to be” make it through lunch?
P11

Q&A
Author Jodi Picoult
P12

Experience
I uncovered dinosaur footprints in a restaurant
P13



16

FEATURES
Pages.....16-37

Holy smoke
Once upon a time, Patrick Cox (above) was shoemaker to the stars. Now he’s a fan of taking toad, a psychedelic he says works wonders for mental health problems. Hadley Freeman takes one hell of a trip
P16

‘Whoever said the language of love is universal never lived in Germany’
How does it feel to be a Brit dating abroad - or a non-Brit dating here? Would-be lovers reveal the truth, in an international romance special. Plus Blind Dates all across the world, from Beijing to New York
P22

Man behaving badly
The 90s was a time of sex, drugs, booze and lads’ mags, and Loaded was the biggest, baddest of the lot. Former editor James Brown recalls the optimism and indulgence, an acid-fuelled awards night - and the emotional turmoil behind the scenes
P34

39

CULTURE
Pages.....39-69

‘My identity started when my mom died’
Jennette McCurdy (below) on child stardom and her abusive mother
P39

Pastoral, radical
Vaughan Williams at 150
P44

Stage.....46
What to do this week....48
Screen.....50
Cultural prescription....53
Visual arts.....54

Books
‘It’s impossible to avoid politics and be a famous Turkish writer’
Nobel prize winner Orhan Pamuk on free speech, plague and more
P57

Nonfiction reviews.....60
Fiction reviews.....63

Snakes alive!
The truth about Medusa
P68

The big idea
Stop separating physical and mental health
P69



71

LIFESTYLE
Pages.....71-94

You’ve got to be yolking
How the egg became big business (above)
P71

Tim Dowling
I love my tomatoes (especially because my friends envy them)
P75

You be the judge
Do I have to tell my girlfriend every detail of my friend’s stag do?
P76

Ask Annalisa Barbieri
My close friend is always late and flaky
P77

Style & Body.....81
Plants.....83

Travel
Education, education, vacation
Six great holidays that teach you a lesson, from making a clay pot in Slovenia to reading a map in Snowdonia and waltzing in Vienna
P84

How far to the pub?.....88
A local’s guide.....91
Puzzles.....93

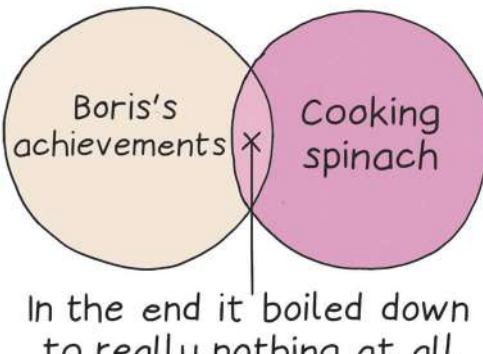
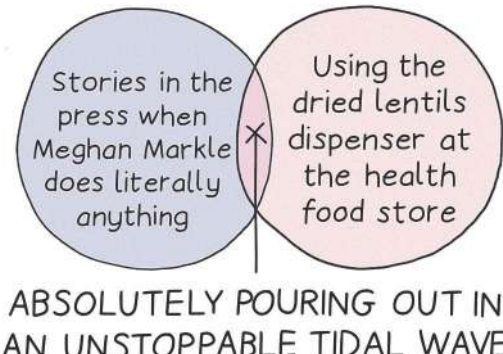
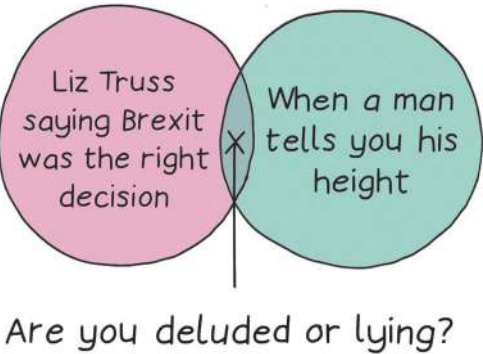
Guardian angel
The campaigner opening up the conversation about personality disorders
P94

SATURDAY
The Guardian
Kings Place
90 York Way, N1 9GU
—
Byline illustrations:
Delphine Lee
Spot illustrations:
Lalalimola



Sign up
for the *Inside Saturday* newsletter for a sneak peek at each issue

Edith Pritchett A week in Venn diagrams



EDITH @edithcartoonist

CLARINS

1 SOLD EVERY 5 SECONDS*

THE UK'S
#1 EYE
TREATMENT**

CLARINS
PARIS
Double Serum
[Hydric + Lipidic System]

Traitement Complet Anti-Âge Intensif
Complete Age Control Concentrate

CLARINS
PARIS
Double Serum
[Hydrolipidic System]
Eye

Traitement Yeux Anti-Âge Intensif
Global Age-Control Concentrate

Double Serum & Double Serum Eye

The unique double power.

Double Serum: 2 power-packed serums in 1 with 21 plant extracts to visibly act on the signs of ageing. Partner with Double Serum Eye for complete anti-ageing action.

*Internal Clarins sales & data - Worldwide, Double Serum range, 2021.

**Source: The NPD Group. Prestige Eye Treatment value sales June 2021 - May 2022.

CLARINS.COM



CUTTINGS

PEOPLE, ISSUES & CURIOSITIES of MODERN LIFE



Smart shot
*The best pictures
taken on phones*
**Magali
Chesnel**

The Teen Cène, 2016

Shot on iPhone 6

It wasn't until Magali Chesnel was on her flight back to Geneva that she figured out why the people she'd seen swimming that day had been wearing bin bags on their heads. After a week of solo travel around the south of Iceland, the French photographer spent the morning at the Blue Lagoon geothermal spa. Returning home, she realised her hair had turned coarse and brittle from the silica in the pools.

While she expected the shots she took of the bag-wearing bathers to be

her favourites, this one came out best. The six Icelandic teenage boys were laughing, chatting and drinking ice-cold slushies in 38C water in a scene that later reminded her of Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper*.

Chesnel was travelling with her Nikon D500 but, concerned about damaging it, she wrapped her iPhone in plastic instead. She did small edits using the Snapseed app. "It was -10C in the air, but nearly 40C in the water, and foggy, so all I needed to do was adjust the light and brightness a little." *Grace Holliday*

Leave a lasting legacy

What does a gift left in your will to Macmillan Cancer Support mean to someone living with cancer? It's physical support, making sure they get the best cancer treatment possible. It's financial guidance to help pay the bills. It's providing a sympathetic ear in a time of need. It's helping us do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

Almost a third of our vital services are funded by gifts in wills. We hope that, after making sure your loved ones are taken care of, you'll consider leaving a percentage of your estate to us as well.

Help change a life by leaving a gift to Macmillan in your will. To order your free Gifts in Wills guide, scan the QR code or call 0300 1000 200.
www.macmillan.org.uk/lastinglegacy





Conversations with Coco

Should Sunday opening restrictions be loosened?

Every so often the question is raised: are Sunday trading laws too restrictive? They were briefly loosened in 2012, for the Olympic Games, but Tory plans to change the rules failed in 2016 and 2020. I asked James Lowman, CEO of the Association of Convenience Stores, about it.

What are the Sunday trading rules?

Since 1994, in England and Wales, a store over 3,000 sq feet (280 sq metres) - roughly the size of a doubles tennis court - can open for only six consecutive hours on a Sunday between 10am and 6pm.

And Scotland?

There aren't any restrictions, yet most shops still have different Sunday hours.

Oh, interesting! If people don't want to shop on a Sunday, then you wouldn't spend money staying open. There's a bunch of factors. In 1994, the main concerns were: what is the right balance for shop workers, what do Sunday hours mean for family life and having a day that is not like the others? There were religious considerations, but fewer than is made out.



I got talking about opening hours at my in-laws and let's just say I haven't seen such a split opinion since Brexit. When we speak to consumers, there's support for the rules. But people who don't like the rules are split between those who say opening stores *at all* on Sunday is wrong, and those who say shops should be able to open 24/7. Large retailers overall seem happy, as it's understood that potential revenue from longer opening ends up being spread across the week anyway.

Makes sense - longer hours wouldn't mean people suddenly have more money. What about workers? I know the shop workers' union is opposed.

It comes back to this idea of a day that's not like the others. That feeds into pay awards - there are still overtime bonuses for Sundays in many stores - and the fact that, legally, shop workers can't be compelled to work on a Sunday. Since there are limited opportunities for the whole family to be together, the sentiment is that these rules make it easier for families.

Do you think, with hybrid and flexible working, that Sunday restrictions could soon become inconvenient, as our working weeks move away from traditional patterns?

The opposite! The restrictions are less disruptive than ever. Back in the day, you did your big shop at one place. Now people shop in diverse ways: supermarkets, a specialist discounter, online. So it's really just one option that's out of bounds for a few hours.

But with the cost of living crisis, people may need access to the budget supermarkets and pound shops over convenience stores?

It's interesting - our sector's reputation with the public has moved on, especially over Covid. We're aware we can't compete on price. Yet roughly two-thirds of our surveyed customers said convenience stores were still important to them, because they saved them a car journey, helped manage cashflow and reduced food waste, as you tend not to buy in multipacks.

Using cash and buying single items from a local friendly face - that's old-school shopping! Maybe changing the rules would be solving a problem that doesn't exist.

Exactly. Whether it was intended or just how it worked out, these rules have an enduring appeal.

Coco Khan

Illustration: Lalalimola



Down the rabbit hole

Lost in the flow of pop culture

This week: fashion week

by Larry Ryan



Spring/summer 2023

'Tis the season - fashion season. New York fashion week is under way, with London's kicking off on Friday. That's followed by Milan, then Paris, making up the big four of fashion. (Copenhagen fashion week in August leads the way in the Europa League slots.) On Friday, Prada's co-creative director **Raf Simons** brings his own label to the London catwalk for the first time.

Real gem



Diamonds are for ...

In 2017 hip-hop collective ASAP Mob released Raf, its homage to the Belgian designer - including a vocal from Frank Ocean, who has launched a luxury brand, Homer: possibly you read about its \$25,000 diamond-studded cock ring. For environmental reasons the diamonds Homer uses are "lab-grown" - but less ethical diamonds were the driving force behind the Safdie brothers' supercharged Uncut Gems, with Adam Sandler and **Eric Bogosian** going head to head.

Talking head

Bogosian is among the dying breed of 80s new-wave polymaths: a theatre-maker, playwright, novelist, occasional historian and actor, from Succession back to Oliver Stone's relentless Talk Radio in 1988, based on Bogosian's play. In 1997 he featured in Woody Allen's caustic Deconstructing Harry, where he crossed paths with, among others, **Bob Balaban**.



Bob Balaban!

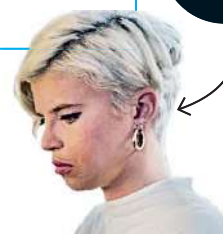
You've seen Bob Balaban (part of his charm is saying the name) in almost everything, but let's jump to 2001 and **Robert Altman's** last great film, Gosford Park, where Balaban played a film director in the English country-house whodunnit. Back in 1994, Altman attempted to do for fashion what he did with Hollywood in The Player (one of his many masterpieces) ...



Photo-finish

Altman's star-filled Paris fashion week satire, Prêt-à-Porter, is a mess, frankly, but worth a look to revisit the pomp of the early-90s supermodel era. Stephen Rea plays a rakish photographer - it's a type also used in Blow-Up with a David Bailey-like photographer in the swinging 60s. A new indie film revisits the trope: due next month, **All is Vanity** skewers fashion and film as an eccentric photographer, his team and a model gather at a London warehouse. What could go wrong?

This year's model



Pairing notes

Read The invitation-only newsletter *Opulent Tips* from Rachel Tashjian is the gold standard for insider style knowledge. Less exclusive but worth a look are Amy Odell's dispatch *Back Row* and Laura Reilly's *Magasin* newsletter.

Eat Last season, *Café Cecilia* in east London was fashion's canteen. Now *Toklas* off the Strand is where to be seen. The chips are "fabulous".



Flashback

YouTuber and actor Joe Sugg recreates an early acting gig and reflects on the highs and lows of social media fame

Interview: Harriet Gibsone
Main portrait: Simon Webb
Styling: Andie Redman

2005 I was an extra in the BBC period drama Cranford



GROOMING: SADAF AHMAD. ARCHIVE IMAGE. COURTESY OF JOE SUGG

Born in Wiltshire in 1991, Joe Sugg is a former roof thatcher turned social media star, actor and author. Inspired by his vlogging sister Zoe, otherwise known as Zoella, he won a place in the Brit Crew – a cohort of UK content creators who dominated YouTube in the 2010s – thanks to his peppy personality and pranks on his long-suffering roommate. With more than 26 million followers across his social media platforms, he has since become a finalist on Strictly Come Dancing, launched emerging talent agency Margravine Management, and performed in London’s West End and the BBC drama Syndicate. His book *Grow*, about the importance of connecting to nature in a digital world, is released on 15 September.

This is me on set for the BBC period drama Cranford. My aunty or mum must have taken the photo. We’d heard that the film crew was coming to our village, Lacock, and wanted extras for the show, so my whole family went back to the 1800s for the day. I was only in one scene, standing in the background looking shocked as a man with a broken arm walked in to see a doctor, but it was very exciting. Especially as Harry Potter was also filmed in our village a few years before – I’d tried to get picked as an extra for that, too, but didn’t make the cut.

Though I was absolutely devastated that I didn’t get to be in one of the biggest movies of all time, I soon realised I was rejected because I looked so young and probably didn’t fit the age bracket for the scene. I was the shortest in my year at school, so much so that under the photo in my yearbook I wrote: “Good things come in small packages.” Throughout secondary school I got teased a bit because of my height, and all the girls thought I was cute – although not in an “I want to be your girlfriend” type of way. Just: “Ahh bless!” Thankfully I was also one of the quickest at running, and often being sporty means you’re safe and respected at school.

I was always a well-behaved boy. I have a vivid memory of being in primary school and smashing a pot with a basketball by accident. The teacher sat our class down and said: “Despite my saying that nobody was allowed to play in the corridor near the pot, some of you ignored me. I’m very

surprised at the boy who did this.” While it wasn’t a massive telling-off, it was enough for me to think: “I’m never misbehaving again.” Naturally, I had a slight rebellious streak at 15 or 16 – around the time I had Tomb Raider and Avril Lavigne posters on my wall. I’d play knock-knock-run on people’s front doors, or hit pears with golf clubs from the garden into the road, not knowing if they would hit a passing car or not. It’s such a country version of mischief compared with what people probably get up to in a city, but whacking pears was my thing.

Before leaving sixth form, we had to write down what we wanted to be when we left school: I chose “working in the media” or “thatching roofs”. I was pretty certain I was going into the latter, and I did, but I thought it might be worth thinking of something else just in case I fell off a roof one day and decided thatching wasn’t for me.

I joined YouTube in 2011, using the name ThatcherJoe, even though my content wasn’t going to be all about my job. It was unknown territory and I launched straight into it without understanding how big it might become. Back then there was no tried-and-tested trajectory for YouTubers – it wasn’t like joining the music industry or becoming an actor, where you can plan out your path. The only things I was good at were being myself and editing. I thought I’d do it for a year and, if it fizzled out, then I’d go back to thatching. Two years later I had six million subscribers.

I’ll never forget my first paycheck from YouTube views – I spent it on a round of drinks in the pub for my friends. It was only £30, but at the time it was impressive that I’d found a new source of income. When things really started taking off, it was hard not to get fixated on numbers – the subscribers and views per video. I’d create a competition in my head with other YouTubers who were doing well, wondering how many subscribers they were getting – and if they missed a week of uploading content I saw it as my chance to try to get ahead. That self-made competition helped me keep a momentum and got me working as hard as possible.

Nothing could prepare me for the fame that followed. Seeing the numbers from videos translated to real-life attention – people who would normally leave comments under a video stood in front of me in real life



2022 I'd like to stay curious and unafraid of new things, just like that little boy in the picture

saying they love what I do and how it benefited them - was incredible. The number of people who told me that my silly videos helped them with their mental health was overwhelming.

I guess my tomfoolery is a bit of a distraction and a form of escapism. I never wanted to be serious or say anything that would divide people. My purpose was always to entertain.

With that success came more pressure, and soon I felt as if I needed to keep up that pace and growth, and to make every video better than the one before. I didn't know it then, but I was setting myself up for burnout. Around 2016, trying to up my game stressed me out so much that I started feeling nervous about filming videos. I kept thinking: "What if it's not as good as the last one? What if my audience drops off? What if I'm not relevant any more?" It was like stage fright, and I started to second-guess everything. I stopped liking the work; I stopped throwing myself into opportunities because of the overthinking and stress. Thankfully my sister paved the way for me not only creatively but emotionally, too. She could help me with the problems I faced and related to what I was going through with my anxiety. I was very lucky I could reach out to her.

These days, I'm starting to enjoy a slower pace and taking a back seat to consider my options for the long term. Social media is a much more saturated place than it used to be, and being an influencer or an online personality is such a sought-after career. I can see why: you get to be yourself, or the character you've always wanted to be, and make a living from it. But the turnover now is so fast - young people are blowing up overnight, and as quickly as they are getting fame, they're forgotten about. If I was a 16-year-old starting all over again, I'm not sure how I would deal with those kinds of extremities.

It's something I think about when it comes to my future children. If they were to choose a similar career path, I'd want to keep an eye on what's going on online, make sure they're OK. At the same time, I'm open-minded and would like to stay curious and unafraid of new things, just like that little boy in the picture. He wasn't scared to take a risk, be an extra and do something he'd never done before. I hope to have that kind of inquisitiveness for ever.

Little Greene®

— PAINT & PAPER —



FINE PAINTS & PAPERS
IN ASSOCIATION WITH



National
Trust

National Trust Papers II

Latest Wallpaper Collection | Available Now

Order free samples & colour cards or find your nearest stockist at littlegreene.com
Colour consultancy service available nationwide and online

Wallpaper: Tulip – Theatre from National Trust Papers II
Tulip dress created exclusively by British bridal designer Halfpenny London



littlegreene.com

Ailsa, 44 – thinks comprehensive education doesn't push pupils to aim for the top



Ben, 28 – says the biggest predictor of success is wealth, not the school you go to

Dining across the divide

Can breaking bread bridge political differences?

● **Ailsa, 44, Newcastle**
Occupation Former research scientist, now trainee physiotherapist
Voting record Ailsa used to be chair of her university Conservative party. She says she has become more left-leaning, but still describes herself as small-c conservative. In the last general election she spoilt her ballot
Amuse bouche Ailsa has moved house 27 times

● **Ben, 28, Newcastle**
Occupation A&E doctor and part-time philosophy master's student
Voting record Ben used to vote Labour but now describes himself as an anarcho-communist
Amuse bouche Ben went to the same primary school as Boris Johnson's daughter and "met him vaguely" at the school fete. He remembers the hair

For starters

Ben We talked about what we did, broke the ice.
Ailsa We've got mirror-image backgrounds. He's a medic, works in emergency care and is doing a degree in philosophy. My first degree was philosophy and politics – I left in my second year because I got ill, so when I got better I was interested in health.

The big beef

Ailsa When he said his politics were anarchist/communist, I thought: "I look forward to tearing his arguments up."
Ben I believe in radical, direct democracy. I'd like to see a consensus-based, non-hierarchical system based on the face-to-face assembly of individuals in a workplace or neighbourhood of around 100-150 people max. They would choose a delegate to carry out their decisions at a council that represents a larger area, and this process would be repeated for a larger area – municipality, region, nation, etc. No decision about you without you!
Ailsa On paper we are as far apart politically as it is possible to be. And yet our values and ideas of society, and the need to run it better, are quite similar. What he said wouldn't work in real life.
Ben If you meet people's material needs, you can remove a lot of crime. Most crime is related to poverty. A lot of abuse, violence and antisocial behaviour is more common among people who are deprived.
Ailsa What about a sex offender? That's not about poverty or property.
Ben Someone who's fully aware of what

Want to dine across the divide?
 Scan here to apply



they're doing, no suggestion of mental illness; someone who's a nasty piece of work. That's the flaw in the argument.

Sharing plate

Ailsa I was brought up by old-style conservative-thinking people: Church of England, basic decency, respect for the law, wanting to conserve what's good rather than change it.
Ben I do have a bit of a penchant for some small-c conservative values, like duty, service, responsibility to others.

For afters

Ailsa My mum was the original poster child for what grammar schools should be. She grew up in Dickensian-level poverty. Her dad died when she was eight. The neighbours made them meals because they didn't have the money. A few generations earlier they would have gone to the workhouse.
Ben Just because it worked for her family doesn't mean the system benefits everyone. A lot of people use their wealth to get tutors. It doesn't really matter if you're state or privately educated – wealth is the biggest predictor of academic success.
Ailsa I got a scholarship to a private school. If you are good at something, a rocket should be put underneath you to push you as far as you can go. You should be encouraged to think big, to aim for the top. I don't believe the comprehensive system does that.
Ben Education could look at the wider expression of human excellence. It angles everyone to becoming a university professor. It would be better if it was about developing people's unique talents.

Takeaways

Ailsa It was a delight to meet somebody so politically informed. We talked nonstop for four hours.
Ben Face to face is always better. It was the antithesis of the arguments I have with people online. I think you can drive down to where your values are shared, even if some of the particulars are divergent.
Ailsa I got into politics because I thought it would be what me and Ben did: an exchange of ideas. When I discovered it was all skulduggery and plotting and bringing people down, I couldn't handle it.

Ailsa and Ben ate at Träkol in Newcastle; bytheriverbrew.co/trakol. Want to meet someone from across the divide? Go to theguardian.com/different-views

The author on treasured recipes for terrible meals, her best-ever kiss and the film of My Sister's Keeper

Q&A
Jodi Picoult

Interview: Rosanna Greenstreet



Born in New York, Jodi Picoult, 56, published her first book in 1992; she has written nearly 30 novels and been translated into 34 languages. Several of her novels have been adapted for television, and *My Sister's Keeper* became a film starring Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin in 2009. Picoult's play of *The Book Thief* premieres at the Octagon theatre, Bolton, on 17 September. She is married with three children and lives in New Hampshire.

What is your greatest fear?
Heights.

What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?
Perfectionism.

What is the trait you most deplore in others?
Prejudice.

What is your most treasured possession?
Recipes that were written out by hand by my grandmother. They are terrible recipes for terrible dinners.

Describe yourself in three words
Driven, creative and curious.

What would your superpower be?
Changing other people's minds.

What do you most dislike about your appearance?
This wobbly bit of skin under my chin.

If you could bring something extinct back to life, what would you choose?
I would save the black rhino which is on the brink of extinction.

What is your guiltiest pleasure?
Bridgerton on repeat.

What is your most unappealing habit?
I have asthma, so I always sound like I'm hacking out my lungs.

My guiltiest pleasure?
Bridgerton
on repeat

How often do you have sex?
Why on earth would I kiss'n'tell?

What single thing would improve the quality of your life?
Teleporting.

Who is your celebrity crush?
Jonathan Bailey, this season's lead in *Bridgerton*.

Which book are you ashamed not to have read?
Vanity Fair.

What is the worst thing anyone's said to you?
I once had a very famous author call me out in an interview, saying he didn't understand why I was always "bellyaching" about gender discrimination in publishing.

What was the last lie that you told?
I told my husband that I was not multitasking when he called me, but I was actually talking to him and answering an email.

What was the best kiss of your life?
On our fifth anniversary, my husband and I rowed to a tiny Scottish island that had the ruins of a castle. We were the only people on this island and it might not have stopped with a kiss.

Which words or phrases do you most overuse?
I don't know but I am sure my copy editor could tell you that.

If you could edit your past, what would you change?
I would not let Nick Cassavetes direct *My Sister's Keeper*, the film. He said [the ending] was going to match what was in the book, then changed it.

What keeps you awake at night?
Questions that I can't answer - and that's what becomes a book.

What is the most important lesson life has taught you?
If you believe in yourself, eventually somebody will look twice to wonder why you have that much confidence, and that is often the break you need.

Tell us a joke
Did you hear the one about gaslighting? Yeah, you did.

Tell us a secret
I am 56 and I sleep with two teddy bears.



Experience

I uncovered dinosaur footprints in a restaurant

As told to Vincent Ni and Xiaoqian Zhu

I grew up in Chaozhou, a small city in southern China surrounded by mountains and sea. I was always fond of dinosaurs, and when I was in high school I set up the first website dedicated to dinosaurs in China.

Now, as a professor at the China University of Geosciences in Beijing, I'm also active on social media, with more than 6.2 million followers on [the microblogging website] Weibo, where I share updates on my research into dinosaur fossils and footprints.

On 11 July this year, I received a Weibo message from a designer called Ou Hongtao. He had been dining in the courtyard of a restaurant in Leshan, a city in southern Sichuan famous for its ancient mountains, and noticed oval pits in the stone floor. He sent me a photo - they were regular

in size, and in a row. He had learned about dinosaur footprints from my blog and wanted to know my opinion.

I first told Ou to send me a few more photos then decided to book a ticket to fly to Leshan to see the pits in person. I contacted the restaurant owner, a garden designer named Zhu Min, and asked if we could investigate.

She told me that the courtyard was used by the previous owners to raise chickens, and the pits may have been the result of the sheds that were previously erected there. The new stone floor was dug up by the restaurant only last year - before it had been covered in cement. My heart sank. But I had to see it for myself.

As I approached the restaurant with my research team, driving along a very unremarkable road, we noticed more

ferns, bringing to mind the era of the dinosaurs. Zhu and Ou came to meet us there.

I went straight to the courtyard and carefully approached these pits. The stone ground was mossy and slippery: I had to take care not to fall. We were surrounded by large banana trees, a spring and a miniature lotus pond next to a red rock wall full of moss.

At first, the pits looked like ordinary ones you would find on the side of the

We found tracks from plant-eating dinosaurs with long necks and tails

road, the kind you usually wouldn't look at twice. Zhu looked at me as if I was about to do a magic trick.

I took two laps around the yard. After careful consideration, I knew they were dinosaur footprints. They were regular, and formed two columns - for the left and right feet. The pits had two different shapes, one for the front feet and the other for the back feet. No natural factors could result in such a coincidence.

On the other side of the yard, I found another set of tracks, though not as well preserved. I've studied dinosaur footprints for a long time and can survey prints from above, making out who they belonged to, how they walked and the pattern of the trail.

We had discovered typical Brontopodus-type tracks, belonging to those large plant-eating dinosaurs with long necks and tails. I imagined there were at least two dinosaurs walking by the water. Perhaps one of them sped up a bit. Zhu was very surprised. "Now," she said, "it really looks like a dinosaur had walked by!"

The "cement covering" Zhu had mentioned was in fact a mixture of lime, clay and fine sand that the previous owner used to pave over the stone ground. He hated the rocks, and wanted a surface that allowed his chickens to walk easily. When Zhu took over the restaurant, she wanted to play with the idea of natural beauty, and so removed this upper layer, revealing the footprints.

All the mysteries were solved and I relaxed. My team carefully studied and measured the footprints. Ou felt very proud, especially when I told him that amateurs can make great contributions to dinosaur studies.

This was the first time that dinosaur footprints have been found in downtown Leshan. This is a magical land. Footprints from the smallest dinosaur in the world - the Minisauripus, measuring from 1cm to 3cm - have been found in rural Leshan as well as South Korea. There have also been prints found deep in a cave from the Tang dynasty in Sichuan province.

I told Ou to continue to search for dinosaur footprints, and asked Zhu to protect the footprints in her restaurant. I hope they will become a landmark, so the children of the city will know dinosaurs once walked through their back yards.

Xing Lida

*Do you have an experience to share?
Email experience@theguardian.com*

Wall art. Never wallflower.

An abstract painting with a dark, moody palette. It features a large, dark, vertical shape on the right side, with some lighter, textured areas and a small red rectangular element near the bottom right. The background is a mix of dark blues and blacks.

With fast & free delivery as standard, you might
be closer to cool than you think.

To curate your space, visit **bestheating.com**.



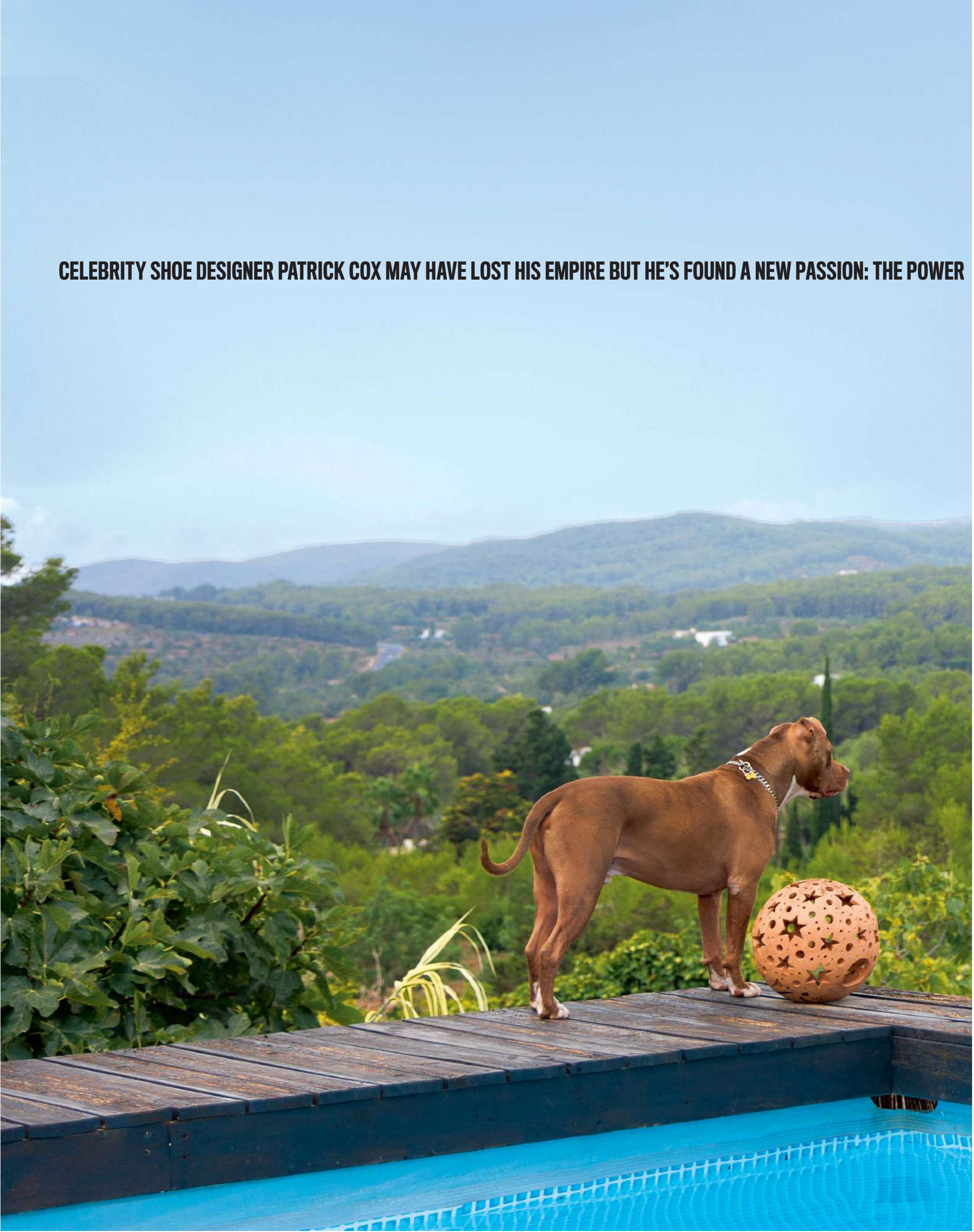
Artwork title
Artist name
Medium and year
Dimensions

Artwork title
Artist name
Medium and year
Dimensions

Artwork title
Artist name
Medium and year
Dimensions

Artwork title
Artist name
Medium and year
Dimensions

CELEBRITY SHOE DESIGNER PATRICK COX MAY HAVE LOST HIS EMPIRE BUT HE'S FOUND A NEW PASSION: THE POWER

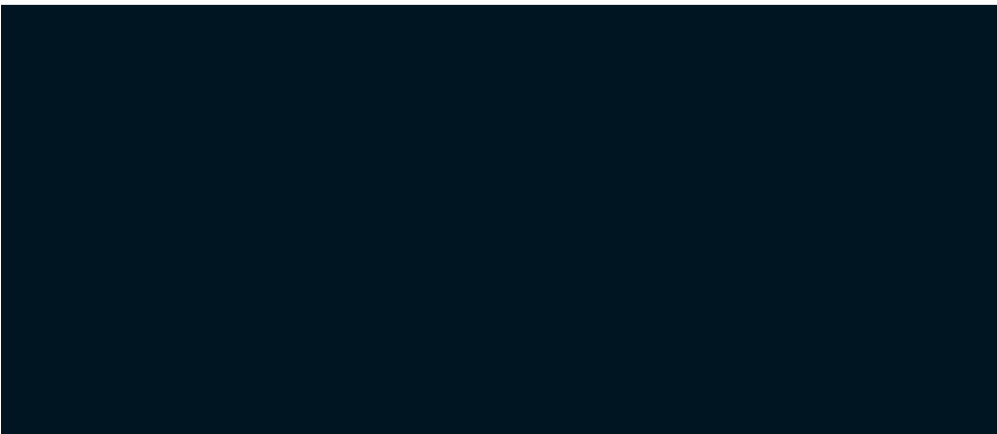


SOLE TO SOUL

OF SMOKING TOAD TO FREE THE MIND VIA A PSYCHEDELIC 'EGO DEATH'. HADLEY FREEMAN TRIES TO KEEP UP ➤➤

Portraits: Karl Grant





his morning in my garden I picked literally *kilos* of tomatoes. *What* am I supposed to do with kilos of tomatoes?!” asks Patrick Cox, once one of the most famous shoemakers in the world, as he drives me to his home in Ibiza, which he shares with his beloved pit bull, Titus. “It’s got solar panels and a well. So I’m pretty much completely off grid, which is the dream.”

Once, this would have been Cox’s nightmare. “Getting up at 5am to do the gardening? When I was 30, I’d have been like: ‘What the fuck is wrong with you?!’” he says, and makes one of his bend-forward-at-the-belly big laughs. Back in the 90s and early 2000s, Cox, now 59, was shoemaker to the moneyed - through his high-end Patrick Cox line - and the masses, with his cheaper, mega-selling brand Wannabe, whose chunky loafers became the defining footwear of the era. Spindly stilettos by Manolo Blahnik might have made more appearances on *Sex and the City*, but at their peak Wannabe loafers sold 1m pairs a year. Cox’s handsome, impish face was frequently photographed at all the A-list parties. He was Elizabeth Hurley’s plus-one on the red carpet, best friends with Elton John and David Furnish. “I was the last one every night to hang up my disco shoes,” he says. He wasn’t nicknamed Party Pat by Janet Jackson for nothing.

Then suddenly, he seemed to disappear. Out of the blue, he emailed me this summer and wrote that he’s working on a documentary about his new life as a toad facilitator. “A toad *what*?!” Cox himself would have once replied. A toad facilitator is someone who helps people while they smoke toad poison, also known as 5-MeO-DMT, the strongest hallucinogen known to man.

“I know, it’s such a cliché: ‘Patrick moves to Ibiza and becomes a shaman.’ But I am not a shaman and never will be. I just want to be part of something that is helping people,” he says.

Helping them to smoke toad poison?

“I am aware of how ridiculous it can seem, but I don’t care.”

It’s my first day in Ibiza and Cox has kindly picked me up from the airport to spare me the taxi queue. When I last saw him, 15 years ago, he was wearing a smart suit. Despite being Canadian, Cox always dressed like the nattiest of Englishmen. Today, he’s wearing a button-down shirt with a magic mushroom print and loose, tie-dyed trousers. “Welcome to the Toad-mobile!” he says as we climb into his bright green Jeep. Instead of his once-signature brogues, he is wearing a pair of multi-coloured slip-ons made out of, he says, “old carpets”. Did he change his wardrobe when he changed his career? “Ha! My friends ask that, but I’ve had a lot of these clothes for 20 years. I’m just putting them together in a different way now,” he says with the cackle that punctuates most of his sentences.

Cox lost his eponymous shoe line in 2007 due to various business shenanigans. “We went into kind of, like, this bankruptcy state. It gets very technical,” he explains. Suffice to say, there was overexpansion, a new CEO and an investor who ended up taking over the company. “Then I got hit by a car and spent six weeks in hospital. It was bad, bad, bad,” he says. He’d already lost Wannabe a few years earlier when the Italian factory where the shoes were made “ended up being taken over by the mafia. I didn’t go back to that part of Italy for a few years, let’s just say, ha ha ha!” In his small but very pretty home in Ibiza, there are occasional mementoes from the glory days: photos of old friends such as Kylie Minogue and Natalie Imbruglia; pictures in the bathroom of him with Elton John, Elizabeth Hurley and ... the Queen. “That was from some event called something like Canadians of Note, when Canadians who had made a contribution to the country were invited to the Palace. David Furnish and I were like: ‘Who besides us will be there?!’” he says. (A lot of Canadians who work in the foreign service turned out to be the answer.)

But in the main, his home feels blissfully far from the frenetic London world he once lived in and loved. Cox moved to Ibiza in 2017, and he has resisted the usual decor clichés of the island: instead of wind chimes, he has 18th-century plaster casts of ancient Greek friezes on the walls. “I bought them in the south of France with Elton,” he says. “For the first time, I managed to get something before Elton got them, because shopping with him is *insane*. You see something you like and he’s already bought six of them.”

Outside, Titus sleeps in the sun. Despite Cox’s previous aversion to gardening, he has a garden that verges on Eden-like behind his house, with orange and lemon trees, and rows of artichokes, courgettes, onions, carrots. It looks like absolute paradise, I tell him. “Well, if you’d come in 2018 you’d have found me lying on the floor where you’re standing now. I was crying, beyond depressed, I couldn’t even stand up. I was completely desperate,” he says, then takes a pause. “Let’s sit down, because this will take a while.” And for the next several days, we sit on his terrace and we talk.

COX WAS BORN in Edmonton, Alberta, and his childhood was complicated. His father worked as a teacher overseas, and by the time Cox was eight he had lived in Nigeria, Chad and Cameroon, with moves back to Canada in between each posting. In 1971, Cox’s mother left his father, and when she landed back in Alberta with her two young sons, she discovered her husband had cut off all their financial support. Cox went from living in relative luxury in the southern hemisphere to being a latchkey kid in a two-room basement in western Canada, and he wouldn’t see his father for another decade. His mother struggled to cope. (He is now on good terms with her and has made efforts to





re-establish a relationship with his father.) He left home as soon as he could at 17 – a gay, disco-loving, fashion-obsessed teenager already looking for the party. He moved to Toronto, and from there to London to study shoe design in 1983.

His progress through the British fashion world is like a snapshot of the 1980s London style scene in all its ramshackle glory. He first worked for Vivienne Westwood, after meeting some of her employees in the bathroom of a club. He made moccasins by hand for the influential label BodyMap, and then worked for John Galiano after they bonded at the now-legendary 80s nightclub Taboo over a shared love of Madonna. (“We did the whole Like a Virgin routine, and John was always Madonna and I was always one of the backing boys.”) He launched his own label when he was in his mid-20s, and it did pretty well, selling around 3,000 pairs a season. But when he started Wannabe in the mid-90s, he went stratospheric. Before he had to work in his own stores to keep them going, but now he had to hire doormen to keep the crowds at bay. “I knew Elton because he came to my store and bought more shoes than anyone I’ve ever met in my life. Elizabeth came to my store. And these people are still my best, best friends,” he says.

If you were even vaguely interested in style in the late 90s and early 00s, Cox seemed ubiquitous: he helped to fund the magazine *Wallpaper**, which was created by his then boyfriend Tyler Brûlé; he had stores around the world, adverts in every magazine. He was friends with everyone because he was fun to be around, and he still is: in all our time together, we drink nothing stronger than water, but he never runs out of energy,

‘I ALWAYS FELT I HAD TO PLEASE EVERYONE, TO PROVE I WASN’T AS WORTHLESS AS I KNEW I WAS. THEN IT ALL COLLAPSED. WHO EVEN WAS I NOW?’

always full of “OK, now *this* is *really* off the record” anecdotes. I can’t even imagine what he was like when he was still, as he puts it, “partying”.

Does he mean “partying” in the euphemistic sense? “Yeah, yeah, cocaine, drinking – let’s blow that euphemism apart,” he says. But despite his success he was riddled with self-doubt: “I always had this voice in my head that I wasn’t good enough, that I didn’t know what I was doing. Even when I won accessories designer of the year twice [at the British Fashion Awards], I thought: ‘Well, they made a mistake.’”

Did that voice come from his parents?

“Yeah. Telling me that I wasn’t good enough. But look, this isn’t some sob story. I had an amazing time. Until it stopped.”

When Cox lost his labels, he had a breakdown. He became so agoraphobic he couldn’t leave his house in west London, and when his PA eventually dragged him to therapy, he clung desperately to the lamp-post in the road. “Ever since I was four, I felt like I had to please everyone, trying to prove to myself that I wasn’t as worthless as I knew I was. And then it all collapsed. Who even was I now?” he says. He had been single since breaking up with Brûlé in 1997, “because how can you love someone when you can’t love yourself?” He went through the Hoffman Process, an intensive seven days of therapy that participants are not allowed to discuss afterwards, but Cox sums it up as “you prosecute your parents”. They patched him up enough that afterwards he was able to dabble in some ventures: he opened a saucy bakery in London called Cox, Cookies & Cake (“As in cock,



balls and fanny,” he explains helpfully), and designed shoes occasionally for other brands. But he had made enough money in fashion to not have to work very much at all, and in 2017 decided he needed another change, so he and his two bulldogs, Brutus and Caesar, moved to Ibiza – where he later got Titus. “It was great at first. But then this cunt called Patrick Cox followed me out here,” he says.

He went into a severe depression, triggered when Brutus suddenly died in Ibiza while Cox was back in London for Kylie Minogue’s 50th birthday. “So I had that extra self-flagellation of feeling like: so not only has my dog died, but it happened while I was in London at a pop star’s birthday, doing things I didn’t want to be doing any more. I mean, Kylie is a friend, not just some pop star, but yeah. I completely flipped out,” he says. He talked to friends about wanting to kill himself. “Elizabeth is so no-nonsense, so she was like: ‘Well, you are NOT doing that.’ Then unbeknownst to me, she called David and Elton and said: ‘I think we need to do an intervention.’”

By now, Elton John has a long record of swooping in and packing substance-addicted celebrities off to rehab, sometimes successfully (Eminem, Rufus Wainwright, Donatella Versace), sometimes less so (George Michael replied to Elton’s offer of assistance in an open letter: “Elton John needs to shut up and get on with his life”). Cox didn’t think drugs were his problem, but he was grateful for any help, so Elton sent in the cavalry, which in this case meant his private plane. “He knew I wouldn’t leave Ibiza without Caesar, especially after what had happened to Brutus, so he very kindly sent the plane for us,” he says, and he shows me photos on his phone of a nonplussed bulldog sitting in a private plane. When they landed in England, Elton’s bodyguard drove off with Caesar in a Bentley to stay with the pop star and his family, and Cox was packed off to rehab.

He pauses at this point and walks me around the side of his house. There, under a tree, is Caesar’s gravestone, the bulldog who went on more private planes than I ever will. Next to that is the one for Brutus. Cox is still single, and while he may struggle with accepting love from a partner, he has no such difficulties when it comes to his dogs, and he becomes a little tearful when talking about the ones that are gone. It is possibly no coincidence that it was when Caesar’s health started to fail in the summer of 2019 that Cox discovered what he always calls “toad”.

Rehab stopped Cox from killing himself, but he was too much of a cynic to buy into the 12-step programme. “I kept saying: ‘What is this, a Moonie cult? I understand you’ve saved millions of people’s lives, but you do have a huge failure rate. There must be something more,’” he says.

IN THE PAST DECADE, there has been an enormous amount of research into whether psychedelics can alleviate mental health conditions, especially depression, anxiety and PTSD. Of course for every medical study proving the psychological benefits of LSD, you can find an anecdote about someone losing their mind after a bad acid trip. But the theory that psychedelics can be beneficial has definitely gone mainstream. Cox had always been sceptical about the grand claims people make for psychedelics: “I thought it was people just wanting to be high,” he says. But he tried microdosing LSD and was amazed at the instant impact on his mental state. But, he complained to a friend, it aggravated his stomach. “Maybe you should try some toad,” his friend replied.

Toad – or 5-MeO-DMT – is found in the poison of *Bufo alvarius*, a toad native to the Sonoran desert in Mexico. To extract it, the toads are “milked”, and the poison is then dried, and when it is smoked in a pipe the heat burns off the poison (so don’t go around licking toads, unless you want to be poisoned). The milking doesn’t hurt the toads, although it does potentially leave them defenceless against predators. But 5-MeO-DMT can also be made synthetically, and while some toad purists balk at that, Cox says the synthetic version is just as good as the natural version, but much stronger. Like all psychedelics,

‘NO ONE WAS A BIGGER CYNIC THAN ME ABOUT PSYCHEDELICS, AND SOMETIMES I HEAR THE STUFF THAT COMES OUT OF MY MOUTH AND I’M LIKE: OH MY GOD, SHUT UP!’

it is non-addictive, but it still comes with massive risks: a handful of people are known to have died from smoking toad, and anyone with heart or kidney conditions, or a predisposition to psychosis or schizophrenia, should stay well away. It is extremely fast acting and very strong – up to six times stronger than the better-known and similarly named hallucinogen DMT, which is why it has become known as the “Mount Everest of psychedelics”, as one bestselling book about psychedelics put it. Fans of toad insist that, despite its reputation, it’s a lot easier to handle than other hallucinogens. Unlike mushrooms and LSD, its effects only last for about 15 minutes, and unlike ayahuasca, there is no vomiting and purging. They claim there is no hangover or comedown afterwards, but rather they feel clear-headed and calm. I heard about one 5-MeO-DMT fan who smokes it an hour before doing the afternoon school run, as if she were grabbing an extra latte.

There is no evidence that smoking toad poison was part of any ancient indigenous tradition. Instead, it is a late 20th-century discovery, and one that is now rocketing in popularity: Mike Tyson, of all people, said smoking toad has helped him to be “more creative”. It is illegal to possess and distribute 5-MeO-DMT in the US and UK, and it is illegal to supply it in Spain, and in recent years several people have been arrested there for hosting toad ceremonies; in 2020, several people, including the porn actor Nacho Vidal, were arrested after a photographer died at a toad ceremony in Valencia. Vidal was later charged for reckless homicide – he maintains his innocence. But there are a growing number of “toad retreats”, on which the wealthy pay thousands

of pounds to go to Central or South America – where toad is legal – to smoke it. It is likely that toad will go the same way ayahuasca has over the past decade – not mainstream exactly, but commodified and something a certain type of person likes to tick off their bucket list, along with bungee jumping in Australia and off-piste skiing in Japan. It is, allegedly, already popular among Silicon Valley titans.

In his 2018 book *How To Change Your Mind: the New Science of Psychedelics*, the award-winning writer Michael Pollan says his experience of smoking toad was “just horrible”, but it also gave him “a sense of relief so vast and deep as to be cosmic”. Unlike with DMT, acid and mushrooms, you don’t have visions. “It’s an experiential drug. You don’t see things when you take it. You experience them,” says Cox. And he experienced them so deeply that when he came round after taking it he found that, for the first time in his life, “I didn’t hate myself any more. There was nothing wrong with me. I’d never known that before. And now I did.” Studies have shown that 5-MeO-DMT has a psychotherapeutic effect, with some people feeling “greater life satisfaction” after trying it.

Cox smokes toad on average once a month “the way some people might go to church or mosque or synagogue”, he says. Because toad is not about getting high, but healing and “doing the work” – exploring what toad shows him. I assumed that being a “toad facilitator” was someone who sells toad poison – a drug dealer, in other words – but it turns out to be more like a drug doula: he “holds the space” for people who smoke it, a psychedelic term for sitting with someone who is smoking and making sure they feel safe. “Watching someone go through these huge transformations – there’s nothing better than that,” says Cox with feeling. He himself has gone through a huge transformation. He no longer drinks alcohol or does any drugs (other than toad) because, he says, they sever the feeling of connection he gets from toad. When he visited Elton John and Furnish in 2019, they told him they hadn’t seen him so happy in years, and he told them he had started smoking toad.

“Well, I’m really glad we paid for you to go to rehab, Patrick, because it sounds like you’re doing a shitload of drugs,” the singer said drily.

“But then he said: ‘If you’re happy, who am I to judge’, which I thought was just beautiful,” Cox says.

Some of his other friends are a little more sceptical: “They’re like: ‘You call it “doing the work” and “holding space”, Patrick. But it’s called taking drugs,’” he laughs, conceding the point a little.

Before I flew to Ibiza, my editor expressly warned me not to go gonzo and smoke 5-MeO-DMT. But, I tell Cox, even after hours of talking to him, I still have so many questions about toad. Like, doesn’t he think he’s simply substituted a more powerful drug for less satisfying ones? When he says that the world would be better off if everyone smoked toad, is it possible that he has given himself brain damage from all these psychedelics? Cox is spending this autumn filming his documentary, even going to Mexico to see the toads. His commitment to spreading the word is impressive, but is he ready to give up his reputation as a talented shoe designer to be known as the crazy toad guy? “No one was a bigger cynic than me about psychedelics, and sometimes I hear the stuff that comes out of my mouth now and I’m like: ‘Oh my God, shut up!’ But trying to explain toad to someone who has never taken it is like trying to explain sex to someone who has only ever watched it,” he says. Pretty convenient fob-off, the sceptical side of my brain says. The curious part says: “Well, let’s smoke some toad, then.”

Firmly ignoring my editor’s instruction, I find someone, who I’ll call C, who has toad, and I ask Cox to come with me to see him and keep me safe – to hold the space. He replies firmly that I’ll first have to answer some questions. After ascertaining whether I have any history of cardiac problems, depression or psychosis (none all round), he asks if I’ve had any alcohol or narcotics in the past three days, whether I’m on selective



Clockwise from top left: Patrick Cox in his Toronto store in 1992; with Boy George in 1987; and with friends Elizabeth Hurley, David Furnish and Elton John, who got together to stage an intervention when he hit his lowest point

serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs, a common kind of antidepressant, which combined with toad can lead to the potentially fatal serotonin syndrome), and if I'm just doing this to get high. I answer in the negative to all, so he agrees. I hand over €200 of my own money to C and he tells me to sit on a mat on the ground and to breathe through my mouth. He weighs a small amount of toad poison on a scale and puts it in the bulb of a glass pipe. Cox sits beside me and murmurs a blessing, touching each of my shoulders and my back, while C heats the bulb. As the poison smokes in the bulb, C tells me to take a deep inhale on the glass pipe. I think: "Am I really putting my life and my mind in the hands of Patrick Cox?" And then I don't think anything at all.

I expected to see fractals, wavy lines, kaleidoscopic colours - the things you might see on an LSD or mushroom trip. Instead, I fall into a darkness that goes beyond blackness, and my mind dissolves. This is what toad fans describe as "ego death". Somewhere, a bell rings, and I fall deeper and fly higher, and then I experience something that I - normally hyper verbal to a fault - cannot describe.

After an unknowable amount of time (14 minutes, it turns out) the blue sky appears in the darkness, fragment by fragment. Cox is holding my hand, telling me that I am safe. I feel terrified and ecstatic. I look at Cox, and as tears stream down my face, I hear myself say to him, in a voice that doesn't sound like mine: "Now I understand."

IT'S MY LAST DAY WITH COX and we are back on his terrace. He's as chipper as ever and I feel, well, great: clear-headed, calm and full of energy. Is this

the toad or just the effect of a trip to Ibiza? Cox says all psychedelic experiences are affected by "the set and the setting", ie your mindset and where you're doing it. Certainly something has had a strong impact on me, because it no longer seems entirely ridiculous that I smoked toad poison with the man who used to make my loafers.

Cox knows he has the zeal of a convert, and he tries to dial it down a little. When he first got into toad, he grew his hair long, diving into the psychedelic look. Then a friend stood him in front of a mirror and said: "Would you fuck you?" "Point taken!" he hoots at the memory. (Whatever toad has done to him, it has not - thankfully - taken away his sense of humour.) His focus now is to teach people how to do toad safely, and to try to keep it accessible to anyone who wants it, not just the 1% crowd. I ask if he'll ever go back to fashion and he recoils; instead, he's thinking of opening an animal sanctuary. A part of him would like to be part of "the psychedelic community", he says, but the same cynical mindset that resisted rehab pulls him away from joining this group, too: "There's a lot in that world that I don't agree with. I'm not a new ageist and I'm not a conspiracy theorist," he says. Easier just to explore things on his own without putting a label on it, he says.

When I told a friend in the fashion world about my interview with Cox, they asked if I thought he had lost his mind. I don't. I think he's happy to have found a purpose - to feel needed - after being adrift for so long, and I think he's relieved to feel as if there's something greater out there when he'd grown so jaded with the little world he knew. I also think there is something

beyond explanation about toad. For the week after I smoked it, I felt calmer and slept better than I had in years. The thought of smoking it every month, as Cox does, blows my mind almost as much as the toad did. But doing it once a year, a kind of psychedelic MOT? That doesn't sound totally crazy to me any more. It's entirely possible that Cox is at the forefront of a new understanding of psychology and neurology. It's also possible that he's another guy who went to Ibiza and dropped out, and those two things aren't mutually exclusive.

Cox doesn't plan to smoke toad for ever, because the goal is to be able to access the feelings without the drug. "People think change is only possible when you're younger, and who you are when you're 30, that's who you are for ever, which is crazy," he says. When he was 30, he was a famous shoe designer. Now he's almost 60 and he's a toad facilitator. I don't know if we would all benefit from smoking toad poison, as he says, but I do think people would be happier if they had the freedom - and the courage - to keep evolving, as he has done. To not cling on to one identity, but to keep exploring, and to not care if we look, maybe, a bit ridiculous.

It's my last day and Cox is wearing trousers with an image of Jesus on them and a T-shirt with a giant picture of a toad on it. It matches the charm on his necklace. I hug him goodbye and ask one last question: doesn't he worry, just a little, about losing his mind on toad?

"Of course not, because I'll be happy," he grins, and the golden toad around his neck glints in the sun ●

Patrick Cox's documentary, The Road to Toad, is due to be released in spring 2023

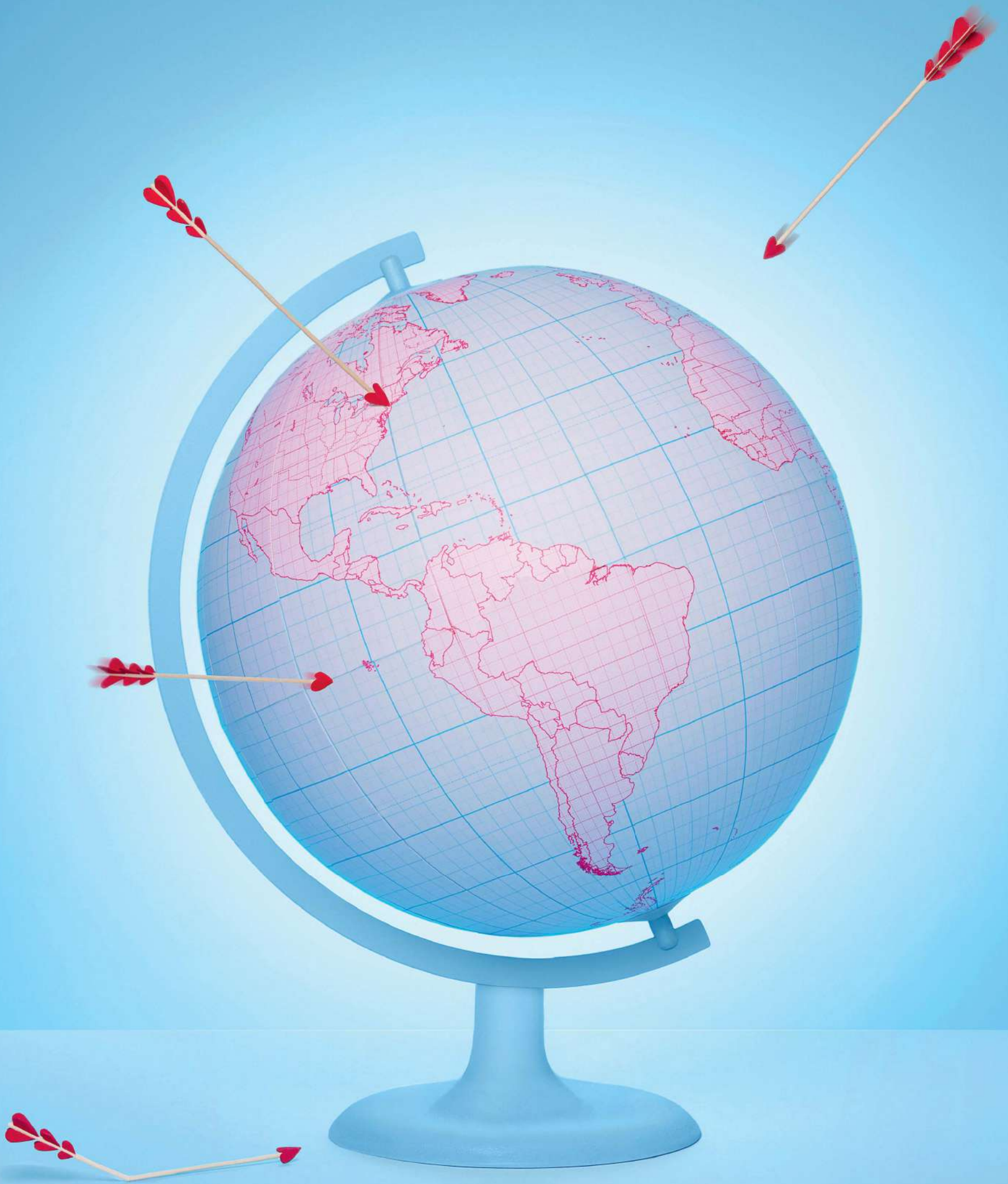


AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DATES...

... and counting. In an international romance special, six Brits abroad share their amorous adventures, while visitors to this country assess the state of the dating scene in the UK. Plus: a multilingual guide to flirting - and Blind Date goes global!

*Photograph: Martina Lang
Illustrations: Edith Pritchett*





SIX BRITS ON DATING ABROAD ...

'I have often seen the dreariest, most potato-like English men elevated to stud status'
Adam Gabbatt, 36, New York City

Being a foreigner abroad doesn't necessarily make you interesting, but it does at least give you something to talk about. If, like me, you're a bit boring, you can still rely on someone at a party, or in a bar, or - once - in the shower at a swimming pool being curious about your origins. It can make you more desirable, too. When I was new to New York, an American woman overheard me in a deli asking for a blueberry "bun" rather than muffin. We chatted and she gave me her number. I lost it, but for the first time in my life I felt exotic.

In New York City, being British should be less interesting. Given the diversity of the city, and the alleged worldliness of its residents, there are a lot of New Yorkers who will claim to be above finding different nationalities interesting. But most of them are lying.

In New York City I have often seen the blandest, dreariest, most potato-like English men elevated to stud status (it's English people - typical - who benefit more than the Scottish, Welsh or Northern Irish). And they know it, too; there's a type of English man who has carved out a space for himself as being, well, English.

"Englishman in New York!" is his Tinder bio. There'll be a picture of him with a union flag or looking mock-bewildered in Times Square. Hang in enough bars and you'll hear English men on dates, often with women far too attractive for them, doing their best Hugh Grant impression and using words like "totty" and "crumpet".

I've tried to avoid becoming the type of man whose entire personality revolves around being British, but my accent has almost certainly helped with my dating career, even if, as I'm from the north of England, Americans can find it difficult to place.

"Are you Australian? Are you from New Zealand?"

"Neither. I'm from Lancashire."

"What's a Lancashire?"

The accusations of being from Australia are hard to come to terms with, and so is the fact that many Americans lack the self-deprecation of other nations. The reduced faux modesty on dates can be refreshing, but it takes a while to get used to. A few years ago I went on a date with a woman who was a fairly well-known - although I'd never heard of her - musician. About 20 minutes into our hang, she said, completely deadpan: "I'm kind of surprised you haven't heard of me."

It took all my effort not to spray beer everywhere. Back home I'd have taken her comment for an excellent joke. But I got past it and we dated for more than a year.

It's not just the personalities that are different. In Britain you can end up going out with someone without really realising it. Hover around someone over a period of weeks. Get drunk together. Sleep together. Wake up with a girlfriend. Here the relationship is carefully defined, each stage with its own terminology and expected level of commitment. There's hooking up, hanging out, dating and "deleting the apps", like levels in some daft video game.

Hooking up, as far as I'm aware, means having sex, and only meeting to do so, usually at night. Hanging out is the next step. It's sort of the same thing, but sometimes you'll go to a movie beforehand, instead of a bar, and in the morning the person doesn't leave immediately, but might loiter for an hour or so.

Dating is a curious stage where you're not technically in a committed relationship but you're spending a lot of time together, including doing things in the day. At this point you may meet up to three of your love interest's friends. Deleting the apps can be done with or without the other person's consent.

The problem is, not everyone agrees on those definitions. I took someone to a friend's party and introduced her to a group as "my co-dater". She shouted, a little too loudly: "We're not dating!" It turned out we were merely hanging out.

The final challenge is commonly an uncomfortable conversation about exclusivity. The process involves talking openly and honestly about feelings and expectations, about concerns and jealousies and flaws. Back home in England I once confirmed my relationship status by standing at a nightclub bar with a woman I was seeing and asking for "a blue WKD for my girlfriend". I looked at the woman hopefully, and she gave me a thumbs up. I had a girlfriend.

Here the conversation is much more intense: "What are your hopes and dreams? Where do you see yourself in five years? How do you feel about monogamy? What antidepressants do you take?" Ironically, given the clamour to date English men - however flawed, boring, doughy - it's a style of dating, even a style of behaving, that many of us are entirely unprepared for.



"You're being too British," my friend says. "If you want to have sex with them, just tell them"
Trish Lorenz, 50, Berlin

Last week I got a message on the Bumble dating app: "Which position do you prefer when riding a tandem?" For a moment I was confused. Perhaps it was one of these "quirky" starter questions the app sometimes throws up, I thought. Or a cheeky innuendo? I've spent most of my life in London, where banter and double entendre are integral to dating, but this is the first suggestive message I've encountered while dating in Germany. I sent a slightly nudge-nudge, flirtatious reply.

I've lived in Berlin for two years now and, the city being what it is, I have dated architects, musicians, a film-maker, a DJ, a nurse and a fire-eating special needs teacher. They've all been friendly, mostly interesting, but the dates have been, well, a bit dull.

The stereotype that Germans are dour or humourless is completely wrong: I laugh with my friends here as hard and as often as I ever did in London. But where in Britain laughter is seen as an aphrodisiac, in Germany humour is low on the list when it comes to romance. Germans of both sexes prefer direct, earnest communication. As my German friends tell me: "Relationships are not a joke."

My very first date arrives by bike, having pedalled 50km to meet me. As an ice-breaker, I try a joke about his staying power, which is met with an assessment of his fitness-to-age ratio and the results of his recent health checkup. I change tack and ask where he lives, hoping for an insight into a town I've never visited. Instead, he shares details of his living arrangements and the emotional challenges of post-divorce childcare. He's genuine but it's very intense. When he asks about my relationship history, and I joke that no one has the time answering that question requires and try to change the subject to the weather, the date is effectively over.

It seems more promising when a DJ invites me to his apartment for our third date. Our first two have been walks across snow-covered parks during lockdown winter - we have long, interesting chats but no chance to indulge in anything more risqué. This time I have hopes: flirtation, a few drinks, who knows where it

might lead. When I arrive, he is baking a cake (Germans are crazily good bakers). It's delicious, but an evening of *kaffee und kuchen* saps all the frisson from the night.

Back on Bumble, a follow-up message: my match is confused by my flirtatious reply. It turns out he'd genuinely been curious about my tandem preference. Whoever said the language of love is universal never lived in Germany. Frustrated, I consult a German friend. "You're being too British," she says. "You need to be direct. If you want to have sex with them, just tell them."

"It doesn't work like that," I say. "I need them to help me want to have sex with them." I want them to make me laugh; I don't want their health records.

Wistfully I contemplate the previous five years, when I lived in Lisbon and Madrid. Dating was hot and steamy, filled with passion and flattery. "You are more beautiful than all the stars in the sky," one lover told me. But these men were also fickle; the declarations came quickly but faded as fast. Perhaps it just takes more time and sincerity to build a connection in Germany, I think. Maybe if I can embrace the earnestness early on, it can lead to a more authentic, deeper experience in the long run.

I decide to forgo British banter and Latin flirtation, and go for candour instead. I hit reply: "You'll never get me on a tandem. When it comes to cycling, I go it alone."

"OK," comes the reply. "Would you like to go for a ride on Saturday? Separate bikes!" The temptation to revert to suggestiveness is very hard to resist but I manage it. "Sounds good," I say.

Writing as Patricia Wolf, Trish Lorenz's debut novel, Outback, is published in November by Embla Books.

'One of my dates has a boyfriend in Paris; another works for a terrorist organisation'
Mark Valen, 42, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

"Hey, I just wanted to give you a tip for the next date. You should shave your beard. Ivorians don't like men with big beards." Dating as a gay man in Abidjan has been a learning experience. The beard comment came at the end of my first date with a translator. Up until then it had been fairly typical: we met on Grindr, which is pretty established here, and entered a long "talking phase" which then moved to WhatsApp. After agreeing to eat at a barbecue restaurant, we met up to chat about our lives, what we are looking for, the usual dating patter.

I told him it was rude to comment on the appearance of someone you had only just met; he told me that I misunderstood him. Later an apology arrived by text, which I accepted before replying that I was not interested in seeing him again. In return, he explained why I was not as charming as I thought. *L'échapper belle* - dodged a bullet. Suffice to say there was no second date.

I'm Anglo-American, and since moving here in late 2019 to work as a journalist, I have found outspokenness is common. I have met lots of creative, interesting and dynamic people who are living their best lives in the face of a state, families and churches that are not so accepting of homosexuality. But I've also found that gay first dates tend to be more full on because gay people are more open about difficult circumstances they face or have faced. Someone recently told me he is just looking for a local partner, because his boyfriend is in Paris; another that he



*Amir, 23, model and actor,
meets Noa, 26, creative director*

Guess!

Noa and Amir ate at Zébulon, Paris.



SMALL GROUP TOURS & CRUISES

Book with complete confidence with our Price Guarantee and over 40 years of experience



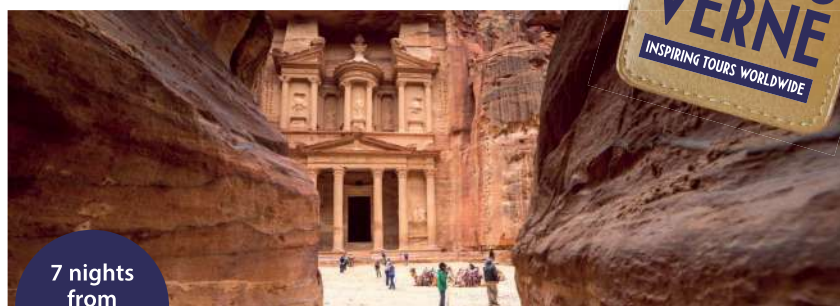
14 nights
from
£2195

TURKEY

NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT
(2023 only, ltd.
dates/avail.)

GRAND TOUR OF TURKEY

- Explore Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman, Hittite, Trojan and Seljuk heritage. 2 lunches and 12 dinners included
- Solo Group Deps. (5 Nov 2022 & 18 Mar, 4 Nov 2023) Early Booking Offer SAVE £100 (2023 bkings. made by 30 Sep 2022)



7 nights
from
£1495

JORDAN

LUNCH AT
A BEDOUIN
CAMP
INCLUDED

HIGHLIGHTS OF JORDAN

- Enjoy an affordable visit, based on a direct flight to Aqaba
- Stay at 4 & 5-star Mövenpick hotels in Aqaba, the Dead Sea region & Petra. Visits include Little Petra, Wadi Rum, Mount Nebo, & bustling Madaba, plus enjoy floating on the Dead Sea



5 nights
from
£845

ITALY

HISTORIC/
CENTRAL
HOTEL

TREASURES OF FLORENCE

- Priority entrance to the Uffizi, Accademia, Basilica di San Lorenzo with its Medici Chapel, Rucellai Palace, palazzo's Vecchio and Strozzi, the Renaissance Pitti Palace and more
- Enjoy a Special Event – Aperitif with a View



6/7 nights
from
**£1795/
£2145**

FRANCE

NO SINGLE
SUPPLEMENT
(limited dates/
availability)

IMPRESSIONS OF THE SEINE

- A full-board river cruise from Paris to the coast of Normandy through the scenery that inspired the Impressionist painters
- Visit Monet's house at Giverny, Honfleur and Rouen. Early Booking Offer SAVE £50 (2023 bkings. made by 30 Sep 2022)



4 nights
from
£1125

AUSTRIA, HUNGARY & SLOVAKIA

DRINKS WITH
MEALS
INCLUDED

CHRISTMAS MARKETS ON THE DANUBE

- A full-board mini-cruise from Vienna to Budapest & Bratislava during the Advent season with a fine music & sightseeing programme, & taking in some of the Christmas markets. Early Booking Offer SAVE £35 (2023 bkings. Made by 30 Sep 2022)



7 nights
from
£1825

CROATIA

EXCLUSIVE
SMALL-SHIP
SAILING

THE COAST OF EXPLORERS & EMPERORS

- An exploration of the Dalmatian Islands and coastal scenery
- From popular Split, call at Korčula, enchanting Mljet, historic Dubrovnik, Pelješac Peninsula, Hvar and Pučišća on the island of Brač. 5 lunches and 6 dinners included, plus Special Events

020 3733 4533 | vjv.com/guardianmag



ABTA
ABTA No.V1661

Platinum
Trusted Service Award
For consistently
delivering excellence
2022 feefo

Prices are correct at the time of going to press. If our specially negotiated airfares are unavailable at the time of booking, a supplement may apply.
≥ Price represents saving.



is heartbroken because his ex's prophetess mother forced him to end the relationship. Another works for a group defined by many governments as a terrorist organisation. My dating life here has been a mix of the sensational and the mundane: sushi and a museum, Netflix and chill.

Abidjan has a busy nightlife, and there are a few clubs that cater solely to the LGBTQ+ community. For foreigners, gay dating is more out in the open but there are often constraints for Ivorians. Most of the people I dated might be out to friends but not to family.

Many Ivorians, no matter their sexual orientation, enjoy sharing the rumour of the day or "reading" someone into the ground (read is slang for jokingly tearing a person apart with criticism). Like anywhere, they also juggle multiple partners, though the transactional side - what you want from someone or from a relationship - is often pretty explicit. Some Ivorians will even change their WhatsApp status to say as much: one feminist friend says she wants to share tasks and equality, another that what she cares about is the money.

Perhaps the greatest hurdle is that living (and dating) in Abidjan means operating in French. I speak French well, but it is a second language. I have also come to learn how small the circle of gay men is in Abidjan. When I shared that troubled first date story with my current - Ivorian - boyfriend, he simply asked: "Is the translator named Eric?" I replied, laughing: "Yes! Yes, he is!"

"I have a boyfriend," she said. "But yes, take my number"

Frank Andrews, 29, Paris

I would describe my time attempting to date online while living and studying in Paris from 2016-2020 as bruising. I had few matches and even fewer dates, my "young Brit on the run from Brexit" bio inexplicably getting me nowhere. I spoke French, but the short thing I had with a French girl I met at university petered out.

At night I lay in bed and swiped on Tinder and Bumble. Waking up to no matches coloured my experience of Paris. It can feel lonely and impenetrable, and something about the grand old city left me feeling I should be living some great, sophisticated revelry rather than traipsing home in the dark, eating an old pain au raisin.

Worse still, it seemed others were having a wild time. Maybe I would have felt the same without the apps, but the people ignoring my likes looked a lot like the people smoking cigarettes on rue de Buci. I didn't know what was wrong with my profile. Was I too self-deprecating perhaps? Were there too few shared cultural references? Was Brexit a bit of a turnoff? Was it simply my pictures?

According to non-French friends still there, frustration on the apps is common and comes as a result of cultural differences. In Paris there is still some shame attached to the mechanical nature of online dating, particularly among those looking for relationships. By contrast, singles in the UK are often reliant on dating apps, whatever they're after. The Anglo-American culture of going on dates with strangers, where you drink and

eat while sizing the other up, is also less prevalent - French people are more likely to approach someone in the street and then go for a drink.

There's also - at least compared with the UK - less of a culture of seeing several people at once. Though not always, proof of which came during one of my spiciest dating experiences. Predictably it started with a face-to-face encounter. During the intermission at a theatre, I fumbled a "Bonjour" to a girl waiting in the lobby. "I have a boyfriend," she said before adding, in a comically French moment: "But yes, take my number." We went for a tentative meal near République soon after, avoiding the subject of her relationship.

The date took a turn when we said goodbye at a Métro station - as we walked away we both stopped and turned back around. Neither of us wanted the night to end, we realised, so we went back to mine. We saw each other for a while, before and after her relationship ended. It didn't last, but in four years it was a rare moment of romance.



'A power cut once trapped me in a date's lobby for hours'

Daniel Hilton, 36, Beirut

At 27, life was not going to plan. I had no bed and no job. Any money I did make tutoring ancient history was ploughed into an increasingly untenable long-distance relationship with a girl in Stockholm. Then a British friend living the life in Lebanon - or so it seemed - urged me to move there. Feeling lost, and with nothing keeping me here, I uprooted to Beirut in a week and quickly found work as a food writer at a magazine - a move that brought fresh professional and romantic possibilities.

Perhaps it was the newness of everything, perhaps it was the murderous July heat, but everything felt immediately thrilling - particularly dating. My first date in Beirut a couple of weeks after moving - a girl I met, rather old-fashionedly, through friends - promised me she would show me around. I assumed she meant the redeveloped city centre, a flashy neoliberal jewel of French mandate-era sandstone facades and empty streets, but instead we wandered romantically around sidestreets, disturbing cats quietly eating out of bins. We saw each other for a few weeks until she moved abroad.

I had packed appallingly, prioritising my antique coin collection rather than clothes, so for my first few months in Lebanon I seemed to dress mostly in rags. Yet despite this, and the near-constant sunburn I waved away as a "terracotta" tan, people wanted to hang out with me. Romance now involved dinners of ice-cream and ashta (clotted cream) on narrow stairs under a riot of bougainvillea. In Beirut, romantic getaways to pine-scented mountains or coastal orchards are accessible and affordable. Occasionally the state's dysfunction intervened: a power cut once trapped me in a date's lobby for hours (the doors were electric). I had forgotten her flat number and my phone was dead. I appealed to a passerby for help through a window. He said: "This is Lebanon - never forget where you are" before walking on.

Tinder washed up on Lebanon's shores a few months after I did, but my first attempts were unsuccessful and I didn't get past swipes. Many women seemed terrifyingly

glamorous, some only had images of roses on their profiles, and if you cast your net wide enough to cross the border, Israeli soldiers began to appear, gripping assault rifles with glossy ponytails swept to one side.

I did end up in a relationship without Tinder's help, though: everyone was sort of jumbled up together in bars and at house parties, and there were always new people arriving in Beirut. A year after I left, the economy collapsed. Many of my old haunts have closed, people struggle to keep the lights on, and many just don't have the cash to enjoy themselves like they did.

'Even the in-app racism lacks imagination'

Georgina Lawton, 29, Lisbon

I moved to Lisbon in 2020 - single, with just my dog and a couple of suitcases - for a change of pace, a more relaxed, outdoor-focused lifestyle, and to work on my next book. I also hoped for a dating life filled with frenetic messaging, romantic strolls through winding streets and glasses of vinho verde by the river Tejo.

I moved when London was locked down and Lisbon was still open - there were no restrictions on bars and cafes. Despite this, the pace of dating was far slower. I was used to quick-fire questions and decisive dating plans, but in Lisbon the response time was languid, the digital flirting lacklustre. It was boring.

I made things harder for myself by being unable to speak Portuguese. Had I played myself entirely by moving here, I wondered after a few weeks of no luck. Tinder and Bumble are used here, a friend said, but the Portuguese don't rely on them to facilitate dates in the same way as Brits; people see them as a way to find casual sex. Hinge, popular in London, wasn't used much, and although in the UK black and brown women can be fetishised by white partners on dating apps, it had not happened to me for years. But immediately after moving to Lisbon, I received messages calling me "exotic", with men expressing disbelief I was born and raised in the UK. Even the in-app racism was lacking in imagination.

When I ran out of potential dating matches after a few weeks, I realised the pool was far smaller than I was used to. But Lisbon has a vibrant street-party culture, so I turned to nights out in order to meet people, with some success. I flirted the night away with men in Bairro Alto, Lisbon's party district, and arranged dates over the thumping beat of Brazilian funk music.

But Lisbon is a very transient city. Men who were my type seemed few and far between, and if I did find one, they either didn't speak English or didn't live in the city. Portuguese culture in general was also more closed off than I expected. Men were shy about approaching women in public. Catcalling and street harassment are rare, but I found myself craving just a sprinkle of the forward, hypermasculine approach I was used to from men in bars back home - then questioned my feminism.

Eventually I started dating a Portuguese man I met on an app. It took us two months to meet up, by which point we had gone into lockdown so the dating I had fantasised about - strolls through the city while picking up pastéis de nata - was impossible. Instead we formed an intense bond in my apartment, cooking seafood and drinking wine on my sofa, relying on each other for company and cuddles as the world burned around us.

After lockdown our incompatibility became clearer: I wanted to explore the city together and he just wanted to continue seeing me at my place. I grew bored and realised I need to be with someone who understands the importance of planned date nights beyond my apartment. Friends told me Portuguese men could be quite tight with spending, and I had noticed as much. So, over a glass of vinho verde in a picturesque square, I ended things. In response, he stormed off. As I watched him cut through the crowds, I felt slightly relieved.

I don't know if I'll find what I'm looking for in Lisbon. But my life here is fuller and so much more peaceful than when I lived in London - and that's more important than partnership right now.



... AND FIVE NON-BRITS ON DATING IN THE UK

'Nobody ever makes a move, no matter how drunk you both are'

Alice Pfeiffer, 37, French

Growing up in Paris, the capital's reputation as the city of love is made abundantly clear. As for the reality, only one thing is true: flirtation is everywhere. Like many French women, I've been given phone numbers on the Métro, in the queue at Monoprix and even at funerals. They come from men and women, and it's led me to some curious dates, most recently one with a pharmacist who brought aspirin as gift - "In case I hurt you!" she said with a wink.

Something I only fully grasped after moving to England - first at 18 to study, and later in my 20s to work as a journalist - was discovering that *la culture de la drague* (hook-up culture) was not quite as universal as I thought. Neither men nor women, gay or straight, would stop each other on the street, declare their love from across the road, spontaneously ask someone out. In Paris's *bobo* (bourgeois-bohemian) world, the whole population seems intent on replaying a nouvelle vague movie where love is stylised and performative, to be practised as a sport at any given moment. But over in Britain, all that suddenly seemed cheesy if not problematic - even eye contact seemed risqué.

Not knowing the local gay scene - and certainly not allowing myself to sink as deep as Googling "lesbian bar London" - I thought Tinder would be the answer. Turns out British Tinder accounts resemble Myspace profiles: you barely see the person but find out about their favourite football team and band - and every selfie features a drink.

The presence of booze runs like a red thread through the dating process. After an online discussion that feels more like a chat with a co-worker than foreplay, you finally agree to meet for a drink (never, *ever* call it a date). Alcohol is ordered the very second you meet, in the largest volumes available, and consumed as fast as possible. Asking for the type of wine and if it is *bio*, ie organic (something normal in Paris), immediately gets you catalogued as a fussy bourgeoisie, I found out.

And so it goes until we're both drunk and hungry, which doesn't lead to a romantic hidden restaurant but to the last fast-food place open. At the end of the night, bills are carefully split and no one walks the other person home. *Quelle romance*.

I slowly discovered that nobody ever makes a move, no matter how drunk you both are. If anything does happen, it feels more like (as one British friend described it) "two faces accidentally colliding into each other and waiting to see if the other person will pull away". And if sex is on the cards, you barely ever remember the first night (or the second or the third), wondering how you landed in the person's bed the next morning. Back in France, by contrast, everything suddenly felt much more calculated - like the



SYDNEY



'We spent almost four hours at the restaurant'

Bella (right), 24, writer/student, meets Sheree, 27, consultant

Bella on Sheree

What were you hoping for?

A meal that would blow my socks off and a date that wouldn't mind me being sockless. And that she was nice.

First impressions?

Warm, energetic and easy to talk to.

What did you talk about?

The usual: past relationships. Our dogs (I'm minding one). That she's a devil's advocate for most things. The wait staff being inquisitive about us. How amazing the food was. What a relief that neither of us were bad company.

Any awkward moments?

Not that I can remember! I just felt terrible leaving food, so I ate most of it, I'd say.



Good table manners?

Yes, she didn't mind me eating a lot and there was no choking on food.

What did you order?

We got the full feed-me menu and

I had four different cocktails. The grape cheesecake was a highlight.

Best thing about Sheree?

How easy it was to speak to her and that she clearly had a lot of love for the people around her.

Would you introduce her to your friends?

Sure, she's very different to those I'd usually hang with, but I can see her getting along with anyone.

Describe Sheree in three words

Comfortable in her skin, very black and white, and smiley.

What do you think she made of you?

Hopefully pleasant and warm.

Loves to eat good food.

Did you go on somewhere?

I went home to watch *Monsters, Inc.* and she went home to watch all of my film recommendations.

And ... did you kiss?

A gentle-them always kisses and tells. (No, we didn't.)

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

That I had five cocktails.

Marks out of 10?

8/10 for company, 10/10 for food and atmosphere!

Would you meet again?

Probably not, but I hope that Sheree finds someone soon who cherishes her as much as she deserves.

Sheree on Bella

What were you hoping for?

I had said from the start I was going into this expectation-less - as every time I had gone into a date with a type, or expected it to pan out one way or another, it inevitably let me down. So I thought to myself, don't have any "type" in your mind and be surprised. Let go of what you think you want and just see what happens.

First impressions?

They were so smiley, warm - and young.

What did you talk about?

Everything - from dietary requirements, to work, to type, to biggest and darkest secrets. There wasn't anything off limits.

Any awkward moments?

Not awkward - there were a few moments that could have been awkward, but we had a laugh about it. When I ordered a mocktail, Bella said, "Oh, how cute" in an almost condescending baby voice, without even realising, and when I told them that is how they sounded, we were in fits of laughter.

Good table manners?

Great table manners, always went 50/50 on the dishes and always offered me a sip of their cocktail.

What did you order?

We did the chef's collection banquet and it was incredible.

Best thing about Bella?

Their ability to make everyone and anyone feel comfortable.

Would you introduce them to your friends?

Of course, they would bring a new element of joy into my friendship circle.

Describe Bella in three words

Inviting, pure and creative.

What do you think they made of you?

We got on well, so I hope they thought I was polite and inviting.

Did you go on somewhere?

We didn't. We spent almost four hours at the restaurant, lapping up the company, conversation and consuming all the good food and drinks. We left close to 11pm and went our separate ways.

And ... did you kiss?

We didn't, other than a polite kiss on the cheek and hug goodbye.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

I would not have driven so I could have had more drinks and enjoyed myself a little more.

Marks out of 10?

The evening was faultless, it was a 10, but in a platonic way, like a good night out with an old friend you hadn't seen in a while.

Would you meet again?

I would, but not in a romantic capacity. I enjoyed my time with Bella and we did get on, but we just lacked chemistry. We spoke like friends - both meeting for the first time, and friends that had known each other for a while, in a weird way.

Bella and Sheree ate at Marble, Sydney.

I'd seen her before - Amsterdam is a small place! Daisy, 28, project manager and dog sitter, meets Cooper, 28, barber

Daisy on Cooper

What were you hoping for?

A lovely lad with a bit of banter, and a dining experience chez Graham's Kitchen.

First impressions?

The first impression was actually a second impression: turns out we'd met before through a mutual friend. I couldn't remember exactly when, but probably about four years back, or at least two prime-ministerial resignations ago.

What did you talk about?

All the usual stuff: work, holidays, festivals, hobbies, dogs. But we also talked about the restaurant's intriguing mural and the famous Graham - who was he, and how



did he end up in the kitchen?

Any awkward moments?

Not awkward, but it was funny when we first spotted each other and realised we'd met before.

Good table manners?

Despite not knowing what to do with the napkin, I would say good. Excellent command of cutlery and appropriate use of fingers, when needed.

What did you order?

Graham pulled out all the stops with a tasting menu and a wine pairing.

Best thing about Cooper?

His eyes, and cheeky giggle.

Would you introduce him to your friends?

If he introduced me to his guy gang (very sacred), I'd consider it.

Describe Cooper in three words

Easy-going but driven, and cute.



What do you think he made of you?

Not sure! But I'd be interested to find out.

Did you go on somewhere?

To a bar, for a beer or two.

And ... did you kiss?

Nope.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

Nothing.

Marks out of 10?

8.

Would you meet again?

Yes, maybe in a more casual setting.

Cooper on Daisy

What were you hoping for?

I was hoping it would be a fun night. I'd never been on a blind date before, so wasn't sure what to expect.

First impressions?

That I had seen Daisy out in Amsterdam before - I didn't remember where or when, though. It's a very small place. Apart from that, she was easy to chat to and was looking really good.

What did you talk about?

Festivals. Summer holiday plans. Suspension bridges. Our work, and her side gig as a dog walker. The beautiful mural on the wall of the restaurant.

Any awkward moments?

I didn't realise until the end of the meal that I was supposed to put the napkin on my lap - I noticed after looking at everyone else in the restaurant. It felt a bit awkward.

Good table manners?

Great.

What did you order?

We had a set menu that the chef recommended, really interesting dishes. I enjoyed them all, even the smoked eel mousse - I wasn't expecting to love that.

Best thing about Daisy?

Her sense of humour: I think it was pretty similar to mine.

Would you introduce her to your friends?

Sure, it turns out that she already knows some of my friends, so I wouldn't have a problem with that.

Describe Daisy in three words

Smart, funny, genuine.

What do you think she made of you?

Enjoys a party, hopefully funny and good company. It's hard to tell!

Did you go on somewhere?

We went to a bar close by for a couple of beers. I had work early the next morning so had to wrap it up quickly, unfortunately.

And ... did you kiss?

We didn't.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

I'd probably have liked to have chef Graham tell us about his mural in the restaurant.

Marks out of 10?

8.5.

Would you meet again?

Yeah, sure, I think so.

Daisy and Cooper ate at Graham's Kitchen, Amsterdam.

time I found out, after one drink, that the cafe we were sitting at was actually downstairs from where the other girl lived and she'd already bought food.

At one point I did end up with a British girlfriend. She was awkward, I was corny. My boisterous displays of emotion on stepping out of the Eurostar, flamboyant romantic declarations and decorative breakfasts in bed would be met with blushing, shushing and a discreet giggle. Which was refreshing. I no longer needed to play the games of cat and mouse so ingrained in French culture - I didn't need to rely on explosions of emotions and cheating to retain her attention. A pint and a chat would do the trick. I found out that in Britain, humour and sarcasm are signs of passion and endearment.

'After appearing on Love Island, I thought dating would be easier'

Yewande Biala, 26, Irish

Everyone thinks that dating in Dublin is like being in a Sally Rooney novel. They're not wrong - Normal People and Conversations with Friends are a good representation of how romantic Dublin can be, but the main thing they got right was how small-town people from Ireland can never really leave their small towns, even if they end up living and working in the capital. On weekends, they still go home and go to the same pubs to get drunk, and date boys from their secondary school. It's hard to leave it behind. I should know, because I'm one of those people.

I'm from Westmeath in the centre of Ireland. Everyone knows everyone's business - it's friendly like that. About 1,000 people live there, and that's being generous. We got a Tesco a few years ago and there are two takeaways, but if you want a McDonald's you're looking at a 20-minute drive.

I loved growing up like that, but being young and single in a rural town had its challenges. At primary school there weren't many boys, and my first crush was on one called Adam. Every Valentine's Day I made him a card, and every single year he didn't fancy me back. One year he threw the card in the bin in front of me. Then at secondary school there was a boy I knew from school, also called Adam. We had a flirtation which started on Bebo, then we "kissed" on Facebook. Except it turned out he had a girlfriend. So even though nothing happened in real life, that was that. She hated me, and I know she still hates me to this day, because they're still together and because that's what happens when you come from somewhere where everyone knows everyone else. From then on, I never told boys from Meath I fancied them.

Still, none of this prepared me for dating in London. After I appeared on Love Island in 2019, I was single and I came here thinking it would be easier. But I always felt like I needed to have my hair done or a full face of makeup to pop to the shops. I even tried Raya (a dating app for VIPs) but everyone I matched with seemed like a psychopath. Whoever I met, in a bar or online, I wouldn't know if they liked me because I was me or because I'd been on TV.

Irish guys always seem slightly more confident. A



lot of them drink heavily and that brings confidence to the table. But they're also more friendly, more fun. Something about their tone or how they might approach you. English people aren't cold, but they wouldn't come up to you unless you made it clear you wanted them to. They're more awkward. I just want someone to take me on a picnic in a field, and I'm not sure that's the kind of thing English men do.

Reclaiming by Yewande Biala (Coronet, £16.99) is out now in hardback, audio and eBook.

'Men in Brazil are more confident, relaxed and flirty than British men'

Francesca Bonatti, 46, Brazilian

I moved back to London from my native Brazil in late 2018. I wanted more from life - I was living in my home town of Sacramento thinking: "Is this it?" I had lived in London for many years in my 20s and 30s, and there are thousands of opportunities here. I thought it would be easier to meet someone.

Men in Brazil are more confident than British men; they are extremely relaxed, flirty and passionate. If they like you, they will look into your eyes; they will X-ray you from your toes to your head. They won't think twice about trying to kiss you or jump on you. If they don't, forget about it - it means they don't like you.

I had a first date in Brazil where I went to his house for wine. (This has never happened in the UK.) Often, when I meet someone after chatting to them on an app, it's a bit of a letdown. But this man was far more interesting, and attractive, than I thought he would be. Things moved very fast from there.

In the UK I sometimes leave a date thinking: "He doesn't like me", but it turns out that he does. British men are generally more careful. It can be frustrating. But I have to say, I really appreciate a guy who doesn't jump on me on the first date.

I'm currently on The League and Bumble dating apps, like I was in Brazil. I would prefer not to use them - as a Brazilian, I'm proud of our ability to be open and friendly, and to talk easily to people - but apps are the reality now. Straight away I noticed how people here take longer to meet up. In Brazil, you might message someone for a few days, but then you'll meet. Here people tend to want to talk for longer. I've talked to one guy for nearly three years. But I prefer to meet up quickly so I don't create a person in my mind who doesn't exist.

British men are often less put together than Brazilian men. Soon after I moved back to London, I met a man for a date at Tate Modern gallery. He had his T-shirt on back to front and he was having a beer when I arrived. He suggested switching to wine and ordered a bottle. I had one glass and he drank the rest. He then ordered another bottle. The date went downhill fast. On the way home, I got off the bus early to avoid being with him any more.

I had a year of dating in 2019 and then the pandemic happened. My first date after that was in April 2021 with an Italian man (I decided to date more Italian men to improve my Italian, if nothing else). It became exciting and passionate very quickly, and we had great chemistry. But a year on it hasn't worked out.

There are so many people in London, but everyone seems a bit lost. Perhaps there are too many options: I might be chatting to 10 men on an app and a day later they've all disappeared. Perhaps they're scared of a powerful, independent woman like me.

'Londoners either come on strong, then cut all ties after a month, or hedge their bets across two or three women'

Elle Hunt, 31, New Zealander

Every so often I'll be walking the streets of Norwich, the small city where I've lived for the past year, when I'll see a familiar face. We avoid each other's eyes, though we've never actually met. He is one of my



almost-matches - the men I've right-swiped on dating apps who have not liked me back, or vice versa.

This is life as a single person outside a big city. In Norwich you don't need to be swiping for long until you are served the dismal notification: "There is no one new around you." Such an alert would be unthinkable in London - but not in New Zealand, where I moved with my family when I was 12. It's said that there are two degrees of separation between any two Kiwis - restrict that to those who are single and the primary barrier to finding love becomes supply. It can feel like a case of bidding your time - for established couples to break up or eligible singles to move to your area.

The key difference between dating in New Zealand and the UK - other than the size of the pools - is terminology: pashes and bangs, instead of snogs and shags, is still my preferred nomenclature. But in practice Kiwis and Brits are similar, relying on alcohol and proximity - and a circuitous, if not tortuous, approach to expressing mutual attraction.

When I first moved to London in 2017, I made a feature of my antipodean links on my dating profile, dangling the possibility of citizenship by marriage in exchange for a drink. "Kiwi in London" isn't much of an edge - in a market as crowded as London's, I struggled to claim even that. But after a few years of explaining my two degrees of separation with the Flight of the Conchords over an £8 G&T, I found my enthusiasm waning. I could swipe for miles without ever running out of new faces - but if I made a match, neither of us was ever free to meet up within the next month.

Though life in Wellington could be suffocating, it allowed for spontaneity and a life relatively balanced among work, friends and dating. In sprawling, expensive London, dating started to seem less an exciting search for connection than unpaid labour. And the bottomless pool always seemed to promise something better.

A friend in Norwich spent her 30s dating in London and found that the high cost of living - forcing people into flatshares well into their 40s and delaying big life decisions - enabled a "Peter Pan lifestyle" at odds with a serious relationship. Many of her dates had seemed confused, distracted or both. They'd come on strong, then cut all ties after a month, or hedge their bets across two or three women - "a bit like a horse race", my friend said despairingly. After four years in London, I'd started to behave in a similar way. When they say love is a numbers game, that it takes only one, it stands to reason that the more players there are, the better your odds. In fact the opposite might be true.

My friend is now in a relationship with a man she met on Hinge not long after moving to Norwich and turning 40. "There's less choice, so I think people are more settled and focused on what they want," she says. We agree that we have the best of both worlds. And London is only 90 minutes by train.

≡ DEKTON®



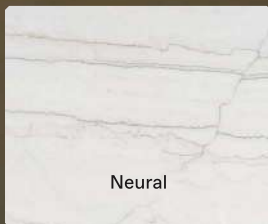
ONIRIKA

Designed by Nina Magon

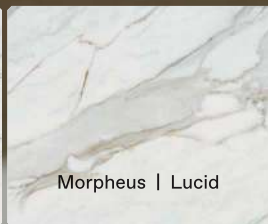
The beauty of natural stones reimagined through Dekton technology to create dreamlike enveloping spaces.



Daze | Vigil



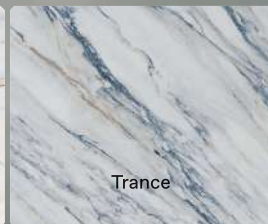
Neural



Morpheus | Lucid



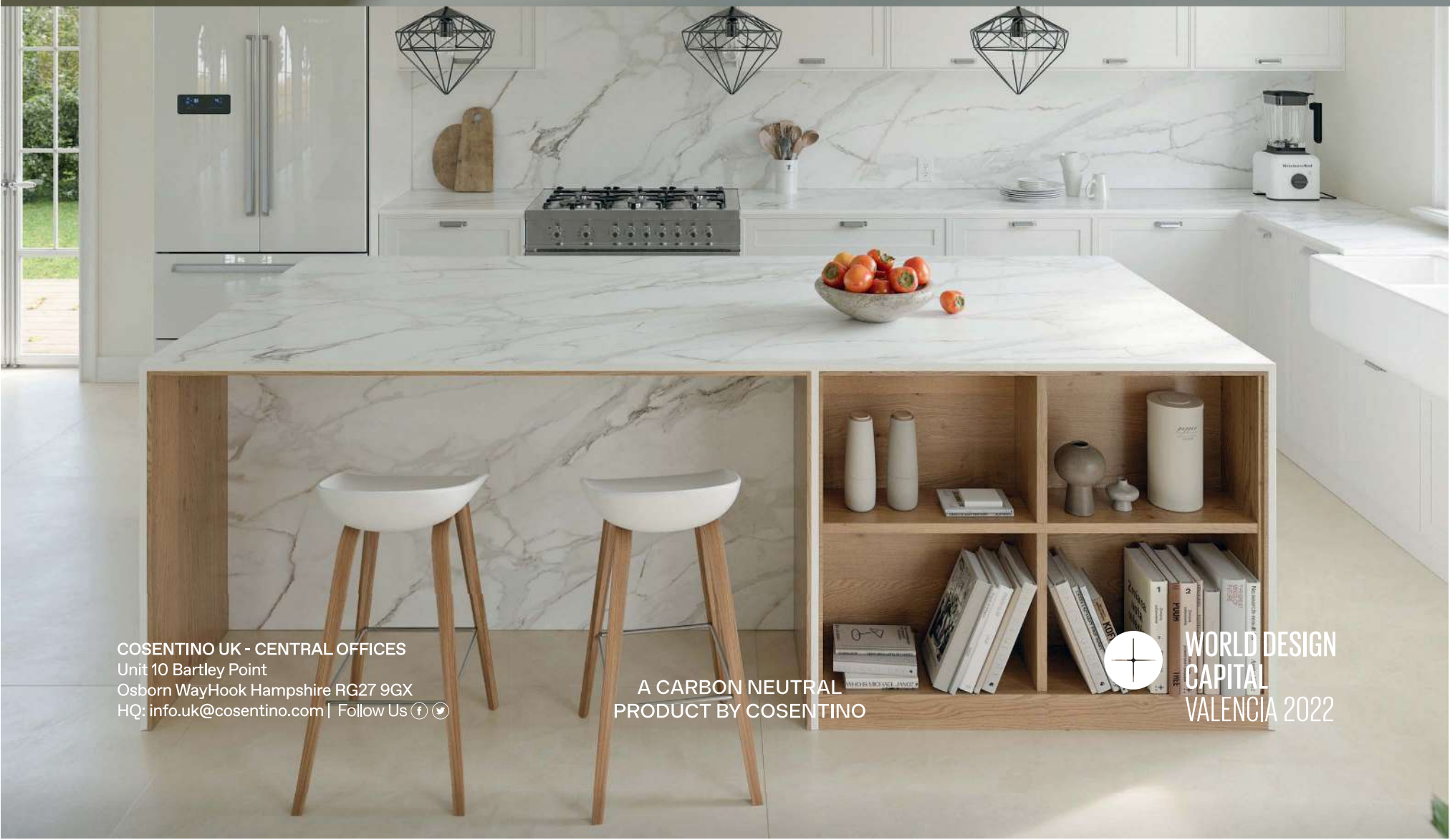
Awake



Trance



Somnia



COSENTINO UK - CENTRAL OFFICES
Unit 10 Bartley Point
Osborn Way Hook Hampshire RG27 9GX
HQ: info.uk@cosentino.com | Follow Us  

A CARBON NEUTRAL
PRODUCT BY COSENTINO



WORLD DESIGN
CAPITAL
VALENCIA 2022



'I get along best with Scottish, Irish or northern women'

Yunus Emre Oruç, 31, Turkish

"Oh, I love Turkish food! What's your favourite Turkish meal to cook?" None, Bethan. I never cook Turkish food. Just because I am Turkish, it doesn't mean I miss or cook it. Come to think of it, I barely miss anything about Turkey. But that's not good "chat" three messages in with a girl I've just met on Hinge, is it?

Since moving to the UK three years ago, dating as a 30-year-old Turkish Muslim man is not that different from when I was 24 and living in Istanbul. I have almost always dated non-Turkish women - British, American, French, Canadian, Greek and German - not deliberately, but more because I have found it hard to connect with my fellow citizens. My ex-wife was a Kiwi. That is true for friendships, too - it's what happens when you grow up in a polarised, highly politicised country.

I'd always wanted to leave Turkey, but what pushed me was a flash currency crisis. Over two weeks in August 2018, I saw my wages plummet more than 40% because I was paid in local currency. The things I enjoyed - travelling, holidays - seemed out of reach. Add to that a general discontent with life and work, and off I went.

Since moving to London, on top of a divorce-before-age-28, I've managed to have two failed relationships and a ridiculous amount of dates and encounters set up through Hinge, Bumble or Tinder. Some were instant hits; most were average. Assumptions about my identity and personality usually evaporate after the first couple of dates, once people hear me elaborate on how things are in Turkey. You could probably describe me as a tall, dark, allegedly handsome (though that is up for debate) Mediterranean man who is usually taken for anything but Turkish - people's first three guesses are Italian, Greek and Spanish. And doesn't eat pork? Cue immediate confusion, a raised eyebrow and questioning looks because I look white-passing but am also Muslim. Add a non-Turkish accent - a mixed bag of Aussie, South African, British and Kiwi - and you have a winner.

In London, I have been having a more varied dating experience - especially during and after the pandemic - where parks and walks feature a fair amount. Dates happen occasionally at galleries or museums, though mostly for second or later dates. It is more free flowing than in Istanbul - but it may also be that I am more mature and confident in myself overall.

I tend to get along with northern, Scottish or Irish women - I don't know why: it could be the friendliness of these groups of people that matches mine. Women who are born and raised in London are rarely on dating apps, or I almost never come across them. Whether or not you are a foreigner, what makes a big difference to your dating life in the UK is whether you have a couple of friends who'll listen to your horror stories, confusions, heartbreaks and victories. Ever since I've moved here, I've found myself with plenty to tell them ●

GET YOUR COAT ... HOW TO FLIRT IN EIGHT LANGUAGES

Italian

Se fossi un astronauta ti porterei sulla luna. Non lo sono, quindi ti accompagnerò a casa. If I were an astronaut I would take you to the moon. But as I'm not, I'll walk you home instead

German

Ich habe meine Telefonnummer vergessen, kann ich deine haben? I have lost my phone number. May I have yours?

Japanese

Kondo ocha shinai? Shall we get tea next time?

Spanish

¿Te llamas Google? Porque eres todo lo que busco. Is your name Google? Because you are everything I'm looking for

Swahili

Una tabasumu nzuri. You have a beautiful smile

Arabic

Kalaamak 'asal 'ala qalbi. Your words are honey on my heart

Urdu

Tum jab pass hotey ho to yeh duniya khoobsoorat lagti hai. When you are near me the world feels beautiful

Yoruba

Ododo mi. My flower

Research: Sundus Abdi and Kitty Drake

'I wanted to hold her hand ... too fast!'

Xiaoyu, 24, manager trainee, meets Iris, 28, medical industry

Xiaoyu on Iris

What were you hoping for?

To start a new relationship in Beijing.

First impressions?

Gentle and quiet.

What did you talk about?

Movies, cartoons, music and dramas we watched; job and career development; our time in the US - mine in California, hers in New York.

Any awkward moments?

When we were going for a walk on a lovely night, it seemed quite natural to hold her hand. Yet I thought I should not do this. Too fast! And we can be friends instead of lovers.

Good table manners?

Yes.

What did you order?

Pork ribs, noodles, fried tofu.

Best thing about Iris?

Though she is several years older than me, it seems we enjoy the same contents, like Japanese dramas and cartoons. When she tries to share something she likes, she becomes really lovely.

Would you introduce her to your friends?

I will, she's interesting!

Describe Iris in three words

Looking for herself.

What do you think she made of you?

Silly young boy, no idea of the future, not a good choice for boyfriend.

Did you go on somewhere?

Yes, for a walk to Legation Quarter.

And ... did you kiss?

No kiss, of course.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

No need to change.

Marks out of 10?

8.5.

Would you meet again?

Guess so, not sure. Too much work to do.

Iris on Xiaoyu

What were you hoping for?

A new friend to enlarge the life circle and share interesting things with. Maybe we can establish a good relationship from this special start.

First impressions?

An energetic and polite boy, then I found out that, although I don't seem to know much about the industry he is engaged in, he has a lot of interests and hobbies in common with me.

What did you talk about?

Each other's work, then about the

BEIJING



ways to relax after work. He said that he liked skiing very much, but he was very busy with work. He usually relaxes by playing games, watching dramas and listening to music. We both love Cantonese songs, Japanese TV dramas and fantasy movies. It made me feel that we are old friends to each other by talking about these.

Any awkward moments?

None.

Good table manners?

Of course, he was polite.

What did you order?

Ribs, tofu balls, shredded radish, bayberry, noodles and mashed potato.

Best thing about Xiaoyu?

He has a lot of positive ideas about work.

Would you introduce him to your friends?

Not yet.

Describe Xiaoyu in three words

Young, well-educated and passionate.

What do you think he made of you?

He seemed willing to talk with me and we had a lot of common interests.

Did you go on somewhere?

Yes. There's a famous *hutong* nearby that used to be the embassy district, which is similar to Xiaoyu's home town of Shanghai.

And ... did you kiss?

Nope.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

Nothing, because everything felt natural and comfortable that night.

Marks out of 10?

7.

Would you meet again?

Maybe.

Xiaoyu and Iris ate at Zhazha Bistro, Beijing.

'He knew how to poke fun without making me feel like a dope'

Aaron (right), 28, artist, meets Robbie, 35, director of partnerships

Aaron on Robbie

What were you hoping for?

An interesting date, great conversation and a delicious meal.

First impressions?

My first question was, "Have you ever been on a blind date?" To which he responded, "Well, actually I was on a recent season of *The Bachelor*." I totally fell for it before he started laughing, admitted it was a joke, and I knew then the night would be just fine.

What did you talk about?

What *didn't* we talk about? We covered everything from family history to the airspace control Oprah has, and eating McDonald's off the floor.

Any awkward moments?

When I found out neither my date nor the waitress had seen *Game of Thrones*.

Good table manners?

I don't recall any slurping, spitting or unbuttoning of his pants, so A+.

What did you order?

Turned out he's a vegan and I am not.

We went to a restaurant of shared plates. I let him choose three delicious appetisers, I got my carnivorous entree and we shared a brilliant orange sorbet.

Best thing about Robbie?

He doesn't take himself too seriously. That, with his openness, makes for the kind of person anyone could enjoy.

Would you introduce him to your friends?

I'm sure I will. He would fit right in with my humorous and eclectic bunch.

Describe Robbie in three words

Present, inquisitive, enjoyable.

What do you think he made of you?

I hope I made him laugh, and think.

I'd like to have come off as a mature, spontaneous and authentic individual.

Did you go on somewhere?

Our date ended on the street in front of the restaurant. After a four-hour dinner it was late - him with additional plans and myself with a hike back uptown.

And ... did you kiss?

We hugged. I don't think we made a romantic connection, so no kiss.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

I would've worn more comfortable shoes. It was a stunning cream leather ankle boot, but at some point during the date, I thought I lost a toe.

Marks out of 10?

9. Romance aside, I don't think it could've gone better.

Would you meet again?

No doubt about it!

Robbie on Aaron

What were you hoping for?

Good chat with some kind cutie who likes to laugh. Wasn't disappointed.

First impressions?

As soon as I entered the restaurant, the host gave me this knowing look and said: "Oh my God, he's *adorable*."

I sat down, already a little intimidated, but he put me at ease right away.

I stumbled through some sort of, "Wow, so, what do we even *do* here?" and he threw back something like, "Oh, is this your first time talking?"

I loved that: he knew how to poke fun without making me feel like a dope.

What did you talk about?

Four hours is a long time, you know?

The usual suspects: how growing up only children has empowered and/or destroyed us. What it's like to date in the NYC gay scene ("complicated"). His many adventures acting and singing on stage/screen. Whether the bread appetiser moment was special *just for us* because we were on some enchanted date, or was in fact given to every guest (everyone got it - disappointing).

Any awkward moments?

We played the "How old do you *think* I am?" game, and he was pretty convinced we'd been in high school around the same time. I ended up being three years older than the max of the range he guessed, which is actually a compliment I think, but also made me want to reach for my walker.

Good table manners?

I wish that were something I thought about at all. He used his hands to grab

utensils and eat the food in a pretty run-of-the-mill way, which was nice.

What did you order?

I've been vegan for long enough that my taste buds have mostly died off. You just learn to order the only option on the menu that works. But Aaron thankfully took the reins, and most of the plates were shared, so he took one for the team at a *Michelin-starred restaurant* to eat mostly vegetables and garnish with me. That was really sweet.

Best thing about Aaron?

He's got this way of telling these over-the-top, captivating stories without being performative, but he can also bring it back down to make the other person feel seen and heard. Earnest moment: there can be times and spaces within the queer community where we collectively trend towards positions of ruthless judgment rather than acceptance. Aaron's energy is just pure light. It's clear he's got some seriously good



vibes going on.

Would you introduce him to your friends?

I would! I hope to. If he gives me a 2, he can at least hang out with them, even if I'm not there.

NEW YORK



Describe Aaron in three words

Present, vibrant, fabulous.

What do you think he made of you?

"How did this charming, hilarious, gorgeous, zero-red-flag-carrying gay make it this far without a boyfriend?"

Did you go on somewhere?

No, but did I mention we were at the restaurant for four hours?

And ... did you kiss?

My oma reads this column! I'm clutching my pearls. We didn't kiss. Does that mean it's over? We hugged twice, which is basically a kiss.

If you could change one thing about the evening, what would it be?

Because of his line of work, it's clear he's an incredible singer. It could have been unsettling for him to sing at our table. Still, it would have been cool. I feel like our server would have been down with it.

Marks out of 10?

9.

Would you meet again?

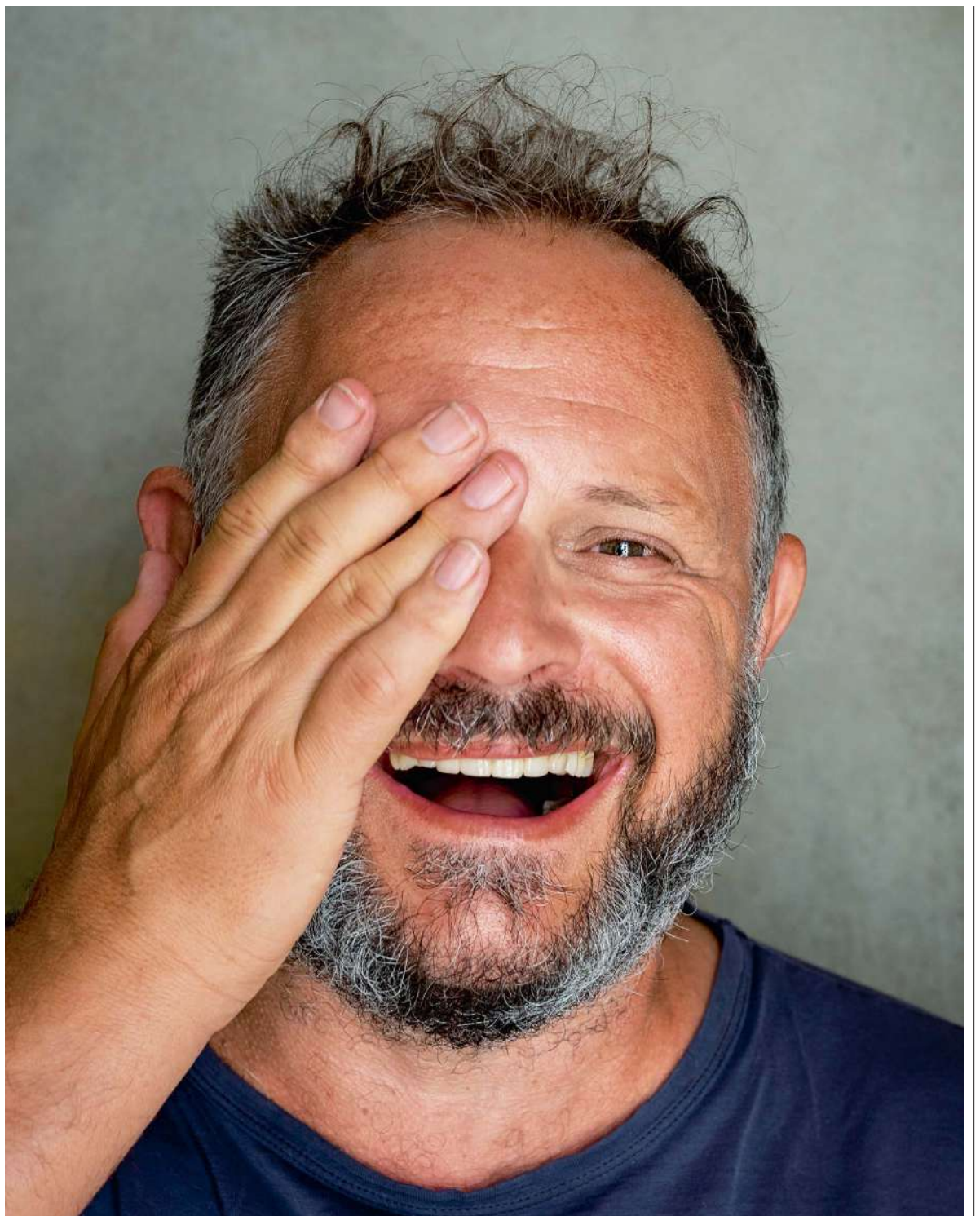
I would. In fact, I've heard he hosts pretty epic dinner parties and hope to score an invite.

Aaron and Robbie ate at Crown Shy, New York.

International Cupid: Sarah Hooper. Fancy a blind date? Email blind.date@theguardian.com



PUBLISH AND BE DAMNED




Former Loaded editor James Brown was synonymous with bad behaviour in the 90s. Is the wild personality behind the birth of lads' mags now a reformed character? *By Tim Jonze*
Portraits (from 1997 and 2022) by Harry Borden

‘Where do you want to start?” says James Brown, gesturing towards his hearing aids. “I can’t hear anything from all the gigs, my eyes have gone from screens, my teeth are fucked, I’ve got arthritis in my hands, I’m overweight, my knees are knackered, the X-rays of my legs look like a broken bottle ...” He trails off for a second, then smiles. “But apart from that, I’m all right!”

He genuinely means that last bit: a life in magazines might have left Brown feeling like a “beaten up old car”, but he seems to be doing pretty great at the moment. We meet at his beach house near Rye. When I arrive, his girlfriend and youngest son are just off for a spot of blackberry picking – what could be more idyllic?

The sense of peace is a far cry from the mania of the 90s, when Brown was the enfant terrible of UK

publishing and founding editor of Loaded, the lads’ mag so notorious that Brown became a celebrity in his own right – a mouthy media presence with a trademark head of curls, fond of bigging himself and his magazine up, and with a reputation for partying hard.

From the off, Loaded was a phenomenon: detractors complained about its non-PC tone (that was mainly the Guardian, says Brown), but readers loved the gonzo writing style (crashing the Cannes film festival with no press pass!), the stoopid feature ideas (the World Cup of Crisps!) and the way it made them feel like they were part of an exclusive gang (even if said gang ran to 300,000-odd readers each month). If Brown’s Loaded could be brash and offensive, it could also be funny, inventive and smart (not many magazines featuring scantily clad women were also hanging out with former Manson family members and joining anti-nuclear protests in Germany). It was also extremely naughty. The strapline, 

“For men who should know better”, reflected the sex, booze and drug-fuelled lives of the editorial team, and their debauched lifestyle spilt gleefully on to the pages. On one occasion, Brown says, the references to narcotics became so overt that the publisher at IPC became worried the drug squad might be about to turn up. He says he was asked by management to find the team in the pub and tell any staff members who had drugs in the office to return and remove them: apparently, every single person got up. “It was an ‘I’m Spartacus’ moment,” writes Brown in his new book, *Animal House: Music, Magazines Mayhem*. “The look on the publisher’s face was priceless.”

Animal House contains an abundance of these men-behaving-badly tales. It traces Brown’s life from being a cocky kid in Leeds with a passion for football and fanzines to a media wunderkind who was appointed features editor of the NME at just 22 and helped define the 90s with *Loaded* before he’d hit 30. Reading it is a bit like being strapped into the passenger seat of a speeding sports car - you can feel the G-force of that decade’s optimism and indulgence, and there isn’t always much time for reflection along the way.

But there is a deeper thread running through the book, too: Brown opens up about his mother’s long-standing mental illness and her eventual death in 1992. Throughout his childhood, she suffered mental health episodes that landed her in High Royds psychiatric hospital in Leeds. Cockiness was one of his self-defence mechanisms (“Don Revie once said attack is the best form of defence, and a lot of his Leeds team is reflected in my personality”); controlling his food intake was another. “I couldn’t eat, I puked if I tried. My knees were bulging out I was so skinny. When I told my therapist about it she said, ‘That’s anorexia nervosa.’ I didn’t realise that at the time.”

Has he talked about this before?

“No. I only told *her* last year,” he says, puncturing the weight of the topic with a big laugh.

When Brown was at the NME, flying to gigs in helicopters or going on benders with Happy Mondays, he would be jolted back to reality by phone calls “saying that mum had gone out of a window and thrown herself off the roof of the house”. While *Loaded*’s sales boomed and he was supposedly enjoying his imperial phase, the truth was that Brown was also self-destructing, blotting out his inner pain with absurd amounts of booze and cocaine.

“Nobody knew what was going on in my life,” he says today. “I was having serious emotional pressures.”

Was it hard to revisit in the book?

“Yeah. I felt nervous about people reading about it. And I think the *Loaded* staff might be quite surprised to read this, because my mood swings back then were like a sail in a squall.” Indeed, when Brown departed *Loaded* in 1997, some of his staff offered less than rosy assessments of his tenure to the press: accounts of bullying juniors, trashing hotel rooms and even hitting a photographer with a stick were mentioned in one profile alone. It seems he could be as tyrannical as he was charming back then.

“I was really mercurial,” Brown says. “One minute I would be happy and planning something fun, and the next I’d be chewing somebody out. Quite often that was because something else had happened in my life in between and, instead of being able to understand how to process that, I would take it out on the next person.”

Brown notes that he was younger than pretty much all of his staff, and that his mum had died only months before the opportunity to do *Loaded* arose. “So there was no structure or sense of recuperation. And then - boom! - I create this thing that explodes, and all of the things about me that annoyed people - my ego and my voice and opinions - got fuelled.”

Loaded was originally conceived as a magazine that combined music and football. Brown had been interviewed for the NME editor’s job, but ended up being offered the chance to make his own magazine instead. Under the mentorship of IPC’s Alan Lewis, he



brought together a small team to create a rough sketch of the mag. It tested appallingly in focus groups, but legend has it that Lewis altered the figures, and so the project was greenlighted.

Animal House is great at conveying the social changes of the 90s and the buzz at the time: Conservatism was on its last legs, while the public got to experience cheap flights, the ecstasy boom, the Premier League and the early days of the internet. *Loaded* reflected this sense of optimism - in contrast to the NME, negativity didn’t feature on its pages. Brown is generous in the book when it comes to the staff whose talents made the mag what it was: Jon Wilde’s interview skills, say, or Rowan Chernin’s loved-up club reports. It wasn’t just a boys’ club, either - Brown enthuses over Barbara Ellen’s spiky commentary and the contributions of writers such as Miranda Sawyer and Mary Anne Hobbs. He realised *Loaded* could include the kind of writing inspired by his journalistic heroes: Tom Wolfe, Hunter S Thompson, George Plimpton. The industry approved and showered the team with awards, including one ceremony when Brown was so convinced they couldn’t win again that he persuaded the entire team to share a sheet of acid beforehand (the full story is told opposite).

Brown’s claims that he was “trying to create a magazine that competed with *Rolling Stone*” are a contrast to the way *Loaded* was often portrayed at the time: as sexist and moronic. The former charge is a particular bugbear of Brown’s; he was only there for 36 issues, and 26 of those featured men on the cover. The women they did put on the cover, such as Kylie, were there because of their talents, he says. “And we were the only people to photograph Kathy Lloyd and Jo Guest *in clothes* ... and actually interview them.” Besides, he says, including women in swimwear and underwear was all Alan Lewis’s idea. “The Face had been fronted at the time by Kate Moss, and there was a backlash against wafer-thin models. Alan said, ‘Let’s just put curvaceous women in,’ and I was fine with that.”

Loaded as a beacon of body positivity? Perhaps that is rewriting history a little. Coverlines during Brown’s tenure included “Suck it!” and “You give me the horn”, although these look pretty tame compared with what followed in the men’s mag sector, when imitators such as FHM and Maxim entered the market and began competing over “nipple counts”. “They just had girls in bras and bikinis on the covers ... then you got Nuts and Zoo - these were so far away from what we were doing.”



▲ GETTING AWAY WITH IT

James Brown today, top, and in 1997, the year he left *Loaded*

When Brown left *Loaded* after just three years at the helm: there were money disputes and a complaint of editorial interference - Brown claims IPC pulled a joke feature announcing that he and staff writer Martin Deeson were to stand for parliament. But more concerning for Brown was the sense that living the *Loaded* lifestyle 24/7 was putting his life in danger. During a trip to Brazil, a driver for the editorial team had turned to the passengers, as if Brown wasn’t in the car, with the warning: “I like James, he has been very kind to me. However, if he behaves in Rio like he has behaved in São Paulo he will be raped and murdered.”

“Being told that when you know you’ve got no control over yourself was a real wake-up moment,” he says. It helped that Condé Nast were waving heaps of money at Brown for him to edit the upmarket fashion magazine *GQ*, believing it had got stuffy and needed an injection of fun. Still, leaving *Loaded* was like splitting up with someone, and he didn’t open a copy for a while.

Brown isn’t afraid of a brag or two in his book, and he believes *Loaded*’s decline came swiftly after his exit. “I always thought it was like those bands where the key member leaves,” he says with a mischievous grin. “The songwriter or lead singer. It was my magazine ... which everybody else made great.” By 2007, the



magazine was taking its staff on a straight pride march around London under the editorship of Martin Daubney, now deputy leader of Laurence Fox's Reclaim party. It had become everything its original detractors had once claimed it was.

Life at Condé Nast was a culture shock for Brown – suddenly he was expected to schmooze at fashion events and shake hands with advertisers. He knew he had to clear out the dead wood on the staff, but his method for going about it – leaving his post-bender buckets of puke in the writer's area until they got the message – probably wasn't learned on any management course. Another early drunken incident at the company involved him throwing a champagne bottle through the office window and on to a waiting minivan. Rather than sack him, the company offered him something he'd never had before: support, and an introduction to an addiction therapist. "They were fantastic," says Brown. He believes their intervention might have saved his life.

This might be true, but they couldn't truly tame the impulsive and occasionally reckless editor they hired. Brown left after a couple of years following a murky incident in which Erwin Rommel and the Nazis were included in a feature about the most stylish men of the 20th century. The last two decades have seen him as a figure somewhat on the periphery of the media: he's become a parent (his oldest, Marlais, is 21 and living in Leeds), started the website Sabotage Times, and taken on consultancy work for big brands such as JD Sports. Did his reputation precede him? Maybe. In 2019, he returned to editing at Four Four Two, but his tenure lasted just six months. Afterwards, his former deputy alleged that he had discussed the idea of photographing South Korean footballer Son Heung-min eating a dog, although both the magazine and Brown say these allegations were not connected to his departure and that he left on mutually good terms. The Son discussion, says Brown, was in the context of covers that would shock or surprise people. "I was explaining you'd have to do something really bad like that, and there's no point moving into controversial territory."

Trouble does seem to follow Brown – and he freely admits that at Loaded he was making the publishers so much money he was allowed to get away with it. Looking back, he describes Loaded as an Icarus story. "We flew so close to the sun that our trainers melted," is how he puts it. He's not the only former staff member to have been through rehab. But asked if he has regrets about any of the stuff they published – even the glorification of the drugs that nearly killed him – Brown pauses, laughs and says no.

In the book there's a brief mention of Loaded's similarity to Jackass and Jeremy Clarkson's Top Gear, but not much pause for thought on the wider impact of what they did. Today, though, Brown sees it more clearly: "There was not much fun in media before we came along," he says. "We said, 'It's OK to fuck around a bit and be as you *really* are.' Older editors said we did things they wish they could have done ... but anyone could have done it."

In many ways publishing is a less exciting place these days, but Brown says that's only if you look at magazines rather than the abundance of creativity on social media platforms such as Twitter and TikTok. "What we did would be lost now, because everyone is having so much fun on the internet. I'm not saying we influenced that, just that when we did it nobody else was. I mean, we once got Olympic athletes and sports stars to comment on the technique of the stick men on Fox's Sports biscuits!"

Brown might be a calmer presence now than the manic character described in his book. But he still buzzes with energy and ideas, and I get the sense that there are only so many blackberries he can pick before he gets the publishing itch again, and a company will have to decide whether or not he's worth the risk. "Yeah, I'd love to edit a magazine again," he admits. "But I'm not sure I'd be able to be in the office. I've never had a proper job – I don't know how to behave in one." ●

'A THOUSAND NIGHTS OF CHAOS AWAIT'

James Brown recalls – hazily – the early days of Loaded

"No you get it. It's your turn."

"Fuck you, I'm telling you to get it."

A row in the Loaded office is so rare I put down the article I am editing and edge round my desk, which is covered in vodka bottles from a photoshoot, and make my way across my room.

On the wall is a large Scarface poster. Next to it is a clipping of a newspaper article highlighting "the 10 traits of a social psychopath". Someone has placed a red tick next to each entry and stuck it on my door.

At the far end of the sofa is a pile of brand-new outdoor wear that our fashion department swagman Reece has blagged. Opposite my office, the four-man art department are all faces to computer screens, laying out pages and calling in photographs. Their area has two broken fans hanging off the desk, there are piles of our latest issue with Frank Skinner on the cover, and freshly used poppers bottles are scattered across the floor. A meeting table is covered in more than 40 boxes of breakfast cereal from our recent Breakfast Cereal World Cup.

Elsewhere in a hidden corner someone is emptying a bag of cocaine wraps, opening each and scraping some of the white powder into one bigger wrap. He puts the tightly folded new, smaller wraps back in the bag and the larger wrap of siphoned overmatter into his wallet.

Across the office in the subs' room there's a burble of low-volume chat where people are actually working. It is the engine room of the magazine, the reason it comes out on time every month. On the office floor, a portable TV with a video player is playing a soon-to-be-released song called Wannabe by a new band called Spice Girls. The record company wants us to go to Japan with the band, who they think are "very Loaded".

The source of the raised voices is the writers' area, where three staff members are rowing about whose turn it is to buy champagne from the off-licence just 100 yards away. I watch in disbelief and think that one day I will look back on this chaos, this second childhood, and wonder if it all actually happened.

Outside are two cars waiting to drive five of us to Heathrow to fly to New York, for no other reason than that I now have a company credit card and as soon as it arrived we decided we should do a travel story there. Within 12 hours of this row, we will be in a Manhattan hotel room drinking vodka shots. The signature on the credit card is already virtually worn off because of the amount of assorted cocaine chop powders it has come into contact with. These include baby laxative, speed and almost certainly bath-cleaning products.

I am 28 years old and have created my perfect job editing a magazine that has exploded into public life. No one is telling us what we can or cannot do, pretty much anything we want is coming good, but who knows how long it can possibly go on?

It's five months since Loaded launched and for me there are 31 more to go. A thousand nights of chaos await.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING BLASE about success when you're eating sheets of acid before a Park Lane awards evening. In the two years since the launch of Loaded, we had become one of the most discussed cultural phenomena of the decade. We were more than 700 days into an exercise in childish behaviour, and things were going well. Almost too well. So by the third major publishing awards I figured that, despite the magazine's popularity, I'd probably not be disgracing the stage any more – I just didn't see how we could keep on winning

every year. Anticipating imminent rejection, I decided to change our agenda for the night and encouraged the staff attending to take a load of blotter acid.

The A4 sheet of acid was a gift from a guy who'd needed a reference to explain his unexplained income. I'd written a letter saying he was a marketing consultant and was paid in cash. We took the acid at 6pm and the reception was due to start at 6.30. At 7pm we were still fanning around in the office when the phone went. On the other end was a reporter from the Express wanting a quote about me winning editor of the year again.

I explained that they must be mistaken as the awards hadn't taken place yet. She said the ceremony had already started and it was assumed all entrants would be in the Grosvenor by now. Consequently the organisers had sent the results to the media. I felt my mouth go dry.

I looked across my desk at the sheet of acid. I put the phone down. "Fuck!" I explained to the others what had happened and what was about to happen. They seemed to collectively turn white and looked at the acid, then at each other, and we all shouted: "Fuck!"

We squashed ourselves into a tiny, open-topped vintage sports car, and as we went round Hyde Park Corner my body began to feel unusually uncomfortable. My limbs felt awkward and I could feel my face tingling and my teeth tapping. From the screaming, big grins and compulsive desire to wave at strangers, I guessed the others were experiencing a similar transformation. We got out at Park Lane and the first thing I did was stand by the entrance with my arms out, gathering the coats of other late arrivals rushing in. Once there was a nice pile, I walked back across the two lanes of traffic and dumped them in the tulips in the park.

The hotel's scarlet-walled Red Bar was the worst possible place to be on acid. It looked like blood was dripping down the walls, and all we could see were repeated images of ourselves curving off into the distance in the mirrors. The more you scowled or laughed at what was going on, the more frightening it looked.

We charged through into the ballroom, which looked like a floating ocean of candles, cutlery, chandeliers, ice buckets, wine bottles and glasses.

Our bosses, Alan Lewis and Andy McDuff, looked particularly relieved to see that we'd arrived. "I've got good news and bad news," I said. "The good news is a woman just rang up and told us we've won."

Andy and Alan looked delighted but confused. "What's the bad news?"

"We've all taken quite a lot of acid."

FOR EVEN THE MOST PATIENT PERSON, any industry awards night can take ages, with disappointment and drunkenness increasing as the night goes on. My own relationship with time had disappeared. After the starter of deep-fried brie, I noticed Alan's head had become the shape of the cheese and his face one big cubic beard. I retreated to my increasingly natural habitat at awards evenings – underneath the table.

This is where I was when they announced I had to go to the stage. I shouted up that Alan would have to go. He refused and said they were waiting for me. It seemed such a long way. By the time I got up there, I was spending a lot of time thinking about how weird my teeth felt in my mouth. I was given the award and then guided back down to the side of the stage. I've no further memories of that night. Many years later, a fellow editor told me he'd come across me at a table cutting out long lines of cocaine and giving them away like free magazines to anyone who wanted some. It was like this so often. If it wasn't an awards evening it was an event, a festival, a pub or a party. It was like one of those documentaries where they lock little kids in a house for a week and leave them to it, only we were making millions of pounds in the process. And people seemed to like it.

This is an edited extract from Animal House by James Brown (Quercus, £20). To order a copy for £17.40 go to guardianbookshop.com. Delivery charges may apply.

EVERYDAY SAVINGS

2 FOR 1

Days out discounted

Nothing beats being there



2 for 1 entry to hundreds of attractions
across Britain when you go by train.

Terms & conditions apply.

MUSIC
Vaughan Williams
at 150

PAGE 44

SCREEN
Emily in
Paris star
Lucas Bravo

PAGE 50

CULTURE

COMEBACK KID

*Former child
star Jennette
McCurdy
on surviving
an abusive
industry -
and mother*



Former child star Jennette McCurdy quit acting in her 20s after years spent trying to meet the impossible expectations of her mother. Now she's revealing the truth in an explosive new memoir

Words: *Emine Saner*

IN A STRANGE SORT OF WAY, Jennette McCurdy's mother, Debra, is getting what she'd always dreamed of: fame. Never mind that the title of her daughter's memoir is the brilliantly punchy *I'm Glad My Mom Died*, or that it details Debra's controlling and abusive ways. "She'd be like: 'My name's on a No 1 New York Times bestseller!'" says McCurdy, laughing. "But not recognising: 'Mom, I don't know if people are loving you, exactly.'"

McCurdy is a child star who walked away from her career in her early 20s, something she could only do because of her mother's death. Since McCurdy was six years old, Debra had shaped and controlled her, turning McCurdy into a successful actor; she was on the hit show *iCarly*, on the US children's channel Nickelodeon, and its spin-off *Sam & Cat*. Every aspect of McCurdy's life was micromanaged, from who she was allowed to see to what she ate; the restricted diet led to eating disorders. Debra would even wash McCurdy in the shower until she was 16, and touch her vagina and breasts (Debra had been diagnosed with breast cancer when McCurdy was two, and said she was checking for lumps), and shave her legs.

Becoming a famous actor was Debra's dream, not McCurdy's. When McCurdy, as a child sitting in the back of the car after a bad audition, tells her mother she doesn't want to do it any more, Debra is enraged. "She was driving so it was, on my part, poor timing," she remembers, with a laugh. "She started screaming, tears flowing down her face. She immediately went into hysteria, which was how she often met resistance. And I felt then: 'This is not an OK thing for me to bring up.'"

If her mother's behaviour reads as abhorrent, then the world of children's TV doesn't come across much better, with child stars having to cope with maniacal showrunners and gruelling auditions. There's a general feeling that it isn't a healthy place for young people working out who they are. Last month Alexa Nikolas, another former child actor, took part in a protest outside Nickelodeon's studio in California, claiming that child performers "were not safe" on shows made by the channel. "I try to talk about everything from a personal point of view [rather than] something more systemic," says McCurdy. "I absolutely think there are a lot of harsh realities to child and teen stardom."

McCurdy grew up in Garden Grove, a small city in California, with her parents, grandparents and three older brothers in a Mormon family. They didn't have much money: her father worked for a kitchen design



company, and her mother sometimes worked shifts at Target, although her main job, McCurdy writes, was "ensuring I make it in Hollywood". Debra's moods and behaviour were erratic and everyone was frightened of upsetting her. Added to this, the possibility that the cancer might return hung over the family.

McCurdy was home-schooled and had no friends, which meant she didn't realise until later how dysfunctional her home life was. "I did feel like an outsider, there was layer on layer of shelter," she says - being home-schooled, being Mormon, being a child actor and working in a world of adults. "I considered myself a second-rate Mormon, I wasn't as good at being Mormon as the others. I didn't have school friends, and then in acting, a lot of the moms can be competitive so they don't necessarily want the daughters talking to one another." When Debra signed McCurdy up for dance classes (14 a week to improve her chances), she did make

'I reached the thing my mom wanted, and she seemed not only unhappy, but suddenly jealous'

a friend and got the chance to see another type of home life. "It was one of my earliest memories of registering what I couldn't identify then as dysfunction."

What about other adults around her - her grandparents, father, people at church? Couldn't they see how harmful Debra was? "My mom seemed hellbent on keeping up appearances. She did a pretty good job of portraying that she and I were best friends, and that we were inseparable." At home, she says, her grandparents and father would plead with her to get help. She would throw McCurdy's father out and make him sleep in the car, scream at them or throw something. "The louder it would sound when it broke, the more likely she was to throw that object." She gives a small laugh. "She never sought help, never worked on any of her stuff. I completely empathise with mental illness, but the fact that she didn't try to change it, that's a more complicated feeling for me."

Throughout McCurdy's childhood, Debra put everything into making McCurdy a star. She whitened her teeth and tinted her eyelashes, she hustled for agents and managers. Worst of all, when McCurdy showed signs of puberty, Debra taught her calorie restriction and managed her diet "to keep me infantilised". She was panicked at the thought of her daughter growing up, but there was also a professional motive. If McCurdy could play a younger age, she would get more roles "because you can work longer hours on set and you can take direction better". Instead of feeling trapped and manipulated, the dieting felt, to McCurdy, like bonding. "Like: 'This is great. Mom and me are helping each other with our diet plans.' I didn't realise the reality."

Getting roles in commercials and in TV series, McCurdy was not only on her way to fulfilling her mother's dream, but financially supporting the family. *iCarly* (2007-2012) became a huge tween hit, and her role as the tomboy sidekick to the main star made McCurdy famous. It was, she says, frightening. "I had been such an overprotected, sheltered kid and then to be recognised any time I walked out the door was overwhelming. I grew to resent fame. It was never the thing that I had set my sights on."

She also realised that it hadn't made her mother happy, which is all she'd ever wanted. "I thought that that would solve everything. Then I reached the thing that she wanted for me, and she seemed not only unhappy, but she suddenly became jealous of me for having it. I think fame was the first thing that really conveyed to my mom that she and I were separate people."

Working on the show was not a happy

Under pressure

Jennette McCurdy; and (below left) with *iCarly* co-star Miranda Cosgrove



LIVE ON STAGE *in SHOW and* CONCERT

THE1975

At their very best

U K & I R E L A N D 2 0 2 3

08.01 **Brighton** Centre
09.01 **Bournemouth** International Centre
10.01 **Exeter** Westpoint
12.01 **London** The O2
15.01 **Birmingham** Resorts World Arena
16.01 **Cardiff** Motorpoint Arena
19.01 **Glasgow** OVO Hydro

20.01 **Manchester** AO Arena
22.01 **Nottingham** Motorpoint Arena
23.01 **Leeds** First Direct Arena
25.01 **Newcastle** Utilita Arena
26.01 **Liverpool** M&S Bank Arena
29.01 **Dublin** 3Arena
30.01 **Belfast** SSE Arena



'being funny in a foreign language'
THE NEW ALBUM, OUT 14 OCTOBER

LIVENATION.CO.UK | GIGSANDTOURS.COM | THE1975.COM

A LIVE NATION, SJM & DF CONCERTS PRESENTATION BY ARRANGEMENT WITH PRIMARY TALENT



DIRTY HIT

experience. She writes about the man she calls The Creator (taken to be showrunner Dan Schneider) and the fearful atmosphere she says he created on set: over-the-top complimentary one moment, verbally aggressive the next. At one point, when McCurdy was 18 and the prospect of her own spin-off show was being dangled, she writes that The Creator took her for dinner where he encouraged her to try alcohol for the first time, and gave her a shoulder massage. She wanted him to stop, she writes, but was “so scared of offending him”. There were parallels between him and her mother; here was another adult she had to tiptoe around, to please. “Absolutely,” she agrees. “Another thing about being a kid in that world is there are a lot of really domineering figures.” (When she left Nickelodeon, she was offered a \$300,000 “goodbye” on condition she didn’t talk about her experiences there, which she declined; Schneider left the channel in 2018 after an internal investigation found he had been verbally abusive.)

The experience of performing as a child, seen through McCurdy’s eyes, is mainly a damaging one, especially when it comes to auditioning. “I was not psychologically developed enough to understand that rejection doesn’t mean you’re not worthy, it just means you don’t fit the role,” she says. “I couldn’t separate those two things.”

She thinks it would help simply to have “somebody on the child’s team. There’s agents and managers, network executives, and sometimes [recording] labels if the kid’s also doing music - all these people that, even if they have the best intentions, at the end of the day are making money off this child. If there was somebody who was there strictly for that child’s wellbeing, it would make a difference.”

Even if it is handled very carefully, inevitably being a child star is not a “normal” adolescence. When McCurdy got her first period, she was working and the news got around the cast and crew; she had her first kiss on set, in front of a camera crew. All these firsts are happening in an unreal environment. “There’s this point where the question becomes: what’s reality?” she says. “The worlds bleed into one another and it requires a lot of unpacking.”

For McCurdy, the next few years would be dominated by eating disorders (anorexia, then bulimia which got so bad she lost a tooth from the vomiting). She drank too much and had dysfunctional and sexually imbalanced relationships, kept secret from her mother until paparazzi pictures of her on holiday with a boyfriend appeared online and her mother sent her an apoplectic email: “You used to be my perfect little angel, but now you are nothing more than a little SLUT.” A fat one too, she added. More emails followed, each more hostile, until Debra told McCurdy that she blamed her for the recurrence of her cancer.

It had returned a couple of years earlier, when McCurdy was 18. At the time she was pursuing, she says with a laugh, “a much-regretted country music blip” (a common path for child actors; McCurdy’s co-star on Sam & Cat was Ariana Grande). Debra’s illness meant McCurdy went on tour without her; it was their first real separation. “There was a feeling of relief that I couldn’t, or didn’t want to, come to terms with at the time, because God did it feel shitty to feel relief that I’m going to be away from my mom for the first time, when my mom also was just diagnosed with cancer. It made me feel like a terrible person.”

Debra died when McCurdy was 21. The opening scene in her book is darkly comic, McCurdy trying to rouse her mother from a coma with news of the only thing that could possibly make her rally - that she is down to



First ladies

McCurdy with Michelle Obama in 2012

her (tiny) target weight. Her death was devastating. “I genuinely felt I had no identity without my mom,” says McCurdy, who is now 30. “I didn’t know who I was. Eventually, the process for me was realising that those feelings were her conditioning. That was her voice, not mine, but it took a long time to get to a place where I could identify that I was, and am, glad that she died.”

When the first therapist McCurdy saw raised the idea that Debra had been abusive, McCurdy was furious and never saw her again. It was an idea “that I couldn’t tolerate. My world was seen through this lens of ‘my mom wants what’s best for me, my mom is everything and I am nothing without her’. The idea that she was abusive would mean reframing that.”

She began to come to terms with it later, while being treated for eating disorders. Therapy, she says, was “hugely helpful. And solitude - I spent a lot of time alone, really tuning out everything.” Leaving acting

‘It took a long time to get to a place where I could identify that I was glad my mom died’



Seeing the upside

(Above) McCurdy and co-star Lucas Cruikshank in 2010’s Fred: The Movie

Stream queen

(Below) McCurdy with Kyle Mac in 2015 Netflix sci-fi series Between



(she was in a shortlived Netflix drama) and her related social media presence was a way of distancing herself from an identity Debra had created for her. “I see it now - my identity started when my mom died,” she says.

She worked towards “forgiveness” for several years. “I remember one conversation with my therapist where I said: ‘When will I get there? What’s it going to take?’ I was trying to justify her behaviour, or make sense of it, or empathise with her. My therapist said: ‘What if you don’t need to find that forgiveness? What if, in trying to find forgiveness, you’re still doing your mom’s work?’ It was really what I needed to hear, and felt like a tremendous weight lifted.”

When McCurdy wrote her memoir, which had its origins in a small, one-woman show, she had largely come to terms with her experience. She didn’t want it to be a way of “working through my trauma”, she wanted to write a more objective, entertaining, darkly funny book (it is, and more). Before her own dreams were squashed out of her, she had wanted to be a writer, but her mother’s view, McCurdy reports, laughing at the memory, was that “writers get big watermelon butts and actresses have cute little peach butts - and I want you to have a cute little peach butt”.

Writing the memoir (she is also working on a novel) has allowed her to simply miss her mother, or at least some aspects of her. “I used to really have a complicated relationship with missing her; I’d miss her, then I’d feel angry and that she doesn’t deserve for me to miss her. She abused me, how do I still have love for this person? It was a deeply confused form of grief, and now I’m able to just miss her.”

Debra got her dream, at great cost, but now so has McCurdy.

I’m Glad My Mom Died by Jennette McCurdy is published by Simon & Schuster on Thursday.

He has long been the nation's favourite, but there's more to Ralph Vaughan Williams than *The Lark*. As he turns 150, it's time to listen afresh to this radical traditionalist

A new England

Words: Hugh Morris

When encountering an unfamiliar composition by Ralph Vaughan Williams, I find myself asking the

same questions: where have I heard this before? Do I know this already or am I simply imagining it?

Clear answers are offered by Eric Saylor's groundbreaking biography, released to coincide with Vaughan Williams's 150th birthday. Saylor approaches his subject with fresh ears and a host of thoroughly researched and well rounded insights that look set to change the discourse surrounding the composer.

Writing with clarity of vision is tricky given how embedded Vaughan Williams is in British musical culture. He wore many hats in his time: symphonic composer, choral society conductor, folksong collector, hymn-tune compiler. Vaughan Williams enjoyed a combination of popularity and prestige unrivalled by many of his British contemporaries, and he remains the nation's favourite composer, even if others might have a stronger claim to be Britain's best.

Familiarity emanates from Vaughan Williams's musical language; its blend of folk modality, references to the English Renaissance and austere chromaticism creates a close conversation between present and past. Vaughan Williams once remarked that he didn't remember

whether he had composed a piece or just remembered it. "I've not had a new musical idea since I was 30," he would later tell the conductor Christopher Finzi.

But as Saylor's new biography shows, Vaughan Williams was actively involved in building a tradition for the future - he did more than merely draw on the past. His compilation of the *New English Hymnal* (confining his most hated Victorian hymns to an appendix nicknamed the *Chamber of Horrors* and replacing them with Tallis, Purcell, Gibbons and a lot of contemporary pieces - including some of his own) demonstrates his inclination to look afresh at traditions otherwise taken for granted.

In many ways the editorial approach taken by Vaughan Williams when compiling the hymnal - looking beyond received notions of taste - was mirrored in his music, which was criticised after the second world war. As Saylor notes, a new generation of composers and critics "took issue with the music and the aesthetic values that he had long promoted, such as his continued advocacy for the relevance of folksong and a robust culture of 'national music' for England".

So why are we still talking about Vaughan Williams? For one, the nature of his music makes it ripe for rediscovery. The composer's interest in daring instrumentation and his unusual approach to form mean that



He wore many hats: composer, conductor, folksong collector, hymn tune compiler

many works lie outside standard performing repertoire. Take the *Sinfonia Antartica* for orchestra, voices, a battery of percussion and a wind machine; or the intense one-act opera *Riders to the Sea*, a difficult work to stage because of its brevity. As with all artists who flout the boundaries of convention, unpacking Vaughan Williams's work is a long and complex process - and there is still some progress to be made.

He was born in 1872 into a life of complicated privilege: "Though comfortable with the gentry, they [the Williams family] were not of it," Saylor says. A radical while at Charterhouse school, Vaughan Williams embraced socialism while studying at Cambridge. He later became influenced by the ideas William Morris, which balanced idealism with pragmatism and helped



Knowing the score
Vaughan Williams
aged 81 conducting
the Boyd Neel
Orchestra; (bottom)
with second wife and
muse, Ursula, in 1957

Chief among his influences was Gustav Holst, a close friend with whom Vaughan Williams shared frank, critical discussions as both composers worked towards finding their respective voices.

The works composed by Vaughan Williams between the turn of the century and the first world war have come to represent the popular perception of the composer today. They include *The Lark Ascending*, his *Sea Symphony* (No 1) and *London Symphony* (No 2), his choral piece *Towards the Unknown Region* and *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*. Described by Gloucester Cathedral's then-organist Herbert Brewer as "queer work by an odd fellow from Chelsea", the *Fantasia* was another unusually scored piece, this time for double string orchestra with string quartet.

For Vaughan Williams and his compatriots, the advent of war brought about total change, and the composer, then in his 40s, enlisted in the Territorial Force, eventually ending up as an ambulance driver in France. *The Pastoral Symphony* (No 3), along with the *Mass in G Minor* (1921) and *The Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains* (1922), became key works in the idiom of 20th-century pastoralism, but Vaughan Williams's return to lush sounds was "no simple and joyful release", as his second wife Ursula Vaughan Williams would later emphasise. Saylor outlines the aesthetic conundrum Vaughan Williams faced at this point: "how to transform the wartime trauma that he experienced into an expression of terrible beauty that might help make a world full of loss bearable once more".

Saylor's measured contribution to our understanding of Vaughan Williams is welcome, and can only add to our understanding of the strange, interesting colours Vaughan Williams conjured, particularly in the august of his career. And for listeners looking to move beyond the familiar sound of *The Lark Ascending*, a good way of approaching his music afresh is by working backwards, from the Ninth Symphony's fierce defiance and unusual sonorities (featuring three saxophones and a flugelhorn) through the eerie chill of the *Sinfonia Antartica* and the violent Sixth Symphony before arriving at his popular, pastoral Fifth. It's an unfamiliar journey but a reminder that serenity didn't come simply for this complicated composer.

shape his political outlook. Though disagreeing with the pacifist beliefs and trenchantly leftwing politics of fellow composers Alan Bush and Michael Tippett, Vaughan Williams publicly supported their right to voice their political opinions. He chaired the Home Office Committee for the Release of Interned Alien Musicians in 1940 despite expressing concerns about the impact an influx of Austrian and German musicians could have on English musical culture.

As a young student at the Royal College of Music in London, Vaughan Williams idolised his teacher Hubert Parry, who instructed him: "Write choral music as befits an Englishman and a democrat." After studying with Parry and Charles Stanford in London, Vaughan Williams went to study in continental Europe, first with Max Bruch in Berlin in 1897 and later in Paris with a young Maurice Ravel.



HONEST PLAYLIST

Sara Cox

The Radio 2 presenter lip-synced to *I Will Survive* in her nightie, and used Dolly Parton to get to know her horse. But which rock gods make her toes curl?

The first song

I remember hearing

I shared a bedroom with my two big sisters, and remember being put in an oversize nightie that trailed behind me like a fabulous gown, and made to lip-sync to *I Will Survive*. This was before RuPaul's *Drag Race*, so I was way ahead of the curve.

The first single I bought

I wish it was a cool one, but as I'm so giving and selfless, it was a charity single for Great Ormond Street hospital called *The Wishing Well*. By about 12, I was allowed to go into Bolton town centre by myself, and would head to the Body Shop, *Our Price* and *Greggs* - the height of sophistication.

The song I do at karaoke

I've only done karaoke once, when my husband worked in advertising and we went back to one of the bosses from Sony's house after a few drinks - because Sony were one of his clients - and I sang *Don't You Want Me* by the Human League, hoping it would help him win the contract.

The song I inexplicably know every lyric to

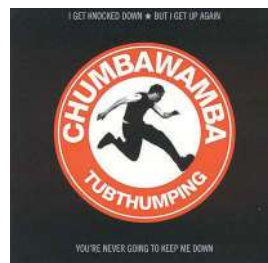
When I was getting to know my horse I would sing *9 to 5* by Dolly Parton. When you sing, you can't tense your buttocks, and a horse can sense when you're tense. I'd sing so we were both relaxed.

The song I secretly like but tell everybody I hate

I've got loads of guilty pleasures, although I'm quite honest about them. I'm out and proud about my love of *All Rise* by Blue.

The song I can no longer listen to

I just can't listen to any Red Hot Chili Peppers. That sort of funk rock really makes my toes curl. I love Dave Grohl, but the Foo Fighters leave me cold. I dread having to play either on the radio.



The best song to have sex to

Tubthumping by Chumbawamba.

The song I wish I'd written

Anything by Carly Simon. I'll go for *Nobody Does It Better*.

The song that changed my life

There's a great song by the Beatles called *For No One*. Whenever I've got to the end of a relationship, it's given me huge strength.

The song that gets me up in the morning

Out of Space by the Prodigy has to be one of the best songs to ramp up your heartbeat and get you feeling bouncy. I try to slip it into the first half-hour of my shows.

The song I want played at my funeral

All Rise might give me some Jesus vibes, but there could be complaints. So I'll have *Tubthumping*. As told to Rich Pelley.

Sara Cox presents *Radio 2 Live in Leeds* on 17 and 18 September, BBC Radio 2.



Getting the band back together

Roddy Doyle's *The Commitments* gave working-class Dublin its voice - and became a hit film. As the stage version returns to theatres, does he still recognise the foul-mouthed young author who wrote it?

Words: Stuart Jeffries

There is a speech in Roddy Doyle's 1987 novel, *The Commitments*, I've long wanted to ask him about. "The Irish are the N-words of Europe, lads," the band's manager, Jimmy Rabbitte, tells his charges. He's trying to explain to them what a bunch of pasty wannabes from the wrong side of Dublin have in common with African Americans and why they should play Black soul music, rather than emulate Ireland's then leading cultural export, U2. "Say it loud," Jimmy tells the perplexed *Commitments*, "I'm Black and I'm proud."

By the time that speech was delivered in Alan Parker's 1991 film adaptation, it was amended to: "The Irish are the Blacks of Europe." Why? "Alan Parker was saying: 'You just can't have a white character using the word,'" explains Doyle.

But even that bowdlerised line made me queasy when I saw the film 30 years

ago. Surely the Blacks were the Blacks of Europe? Doyle demurs. "The line was written in 1986 and at the time Ireland was an economic basket case. It's hard to imagine now." Fair point: in 1986 the Celtic Tiger was yet to be born, as was the liberal Ireland that legalised abortion and same-sex marriages. Today, you might well think the basket case is this side of the Irish Sea.

"Ireland was probably by a distance the poorest country in the EU," Doyle continues. "The unemployment rate in that part of Dublin where the fictional suburb is based was 40%. I was a teacher in a working-class estate for 14 years and in all that time I taught two Black kids. So when I was thinking of the line, Jimmy says it in a tongue-in-cheek way but he's also trying to superimpose a form of Black music on Dublin. He's trying to get the band into that state of mind, the Blacks of Europe."

The Commitments was Doyle's first book, self-published with the help of

a £5,000 bank loan. It could have been his last. The novel was trashed in Ireland's music bible, *Hot Press*. "I think that the lads at *Hot Press* - and they were all lads - thought I was encroaching on their territory. They knew everything that there was to be known about music in Ireland and I knew fuck all."

But one of the 4,000 copies printed wound up in the hands of Elvis Costello, living in Dublin at the time, who gave it a more positive review: "If you want to know what it was like being in a band when I was a kid," he wrote, "just read *The Commitments*." Soon the novel was republished by Random House and *The Commitments* went on to become a multimedia franchise.

"It's not an astronomical amount of money," says Doyle guardedly when I ask him if it made him rich. "I tell you, going back to when the film was released, we - when I say we, my family - were in a position to buy the house outright and that coincided with me deciding to give up teaching, so that lifted a big anxiety at that time. I was going into the gamble of writing for a living."

The gamble paid off. Within a few years his first four books had made him a household name in his homeland. The Barrytown trilogy about the working-class Rabbitte family - *The Commitments*, *The Snapper* (1990) and *The Van* (1991) - as well as the 1993 Booker-winning novel inspired by his childhood, *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*, gave voice to the foul-mouthed and witty urban-underclass Irish sensibility he was steeped in.

That voice even penetrated the inner sanctum of Craggy Island. In one episode of *Father Ted*, Ted asks Ardal O'Hanlon's dimwit Father Dougal a civil question. "I wouldn't know, Ted, you big bollocks," Dougal replies. "Have you been reading those Roddy Doyle books again?" asks Ted. Doyle laughs at the memory of that sitcom canonisation. "If you were to ask my kids if there is anything cool about your dad, they'd say: 'Only then. Only then.'"

But Father Ted's implicit if jokey suggestion is that you are responsible for corrupting Ireland. "Oh, I hope so," he laughs. "Single handedly." You could trace a line from Doyle's unleashing of working-class Irish experience in all its glorious vulgarity and beguiling truculence in his novels through to *Derry Girls*. Is there anything in that? "I wouldn't say that unless you're having difficulty with

the word count," he says drily.

Doyle doubts his influence has been so profound. "There was the thing that there was going to be this whole raft of Roddy Doyle writers because of the success of the first books. There are plenty of people who write about life in working-class Ireland but I don't see them as overly inspired by me."

In any case, Doyle has been damned as well as praised in Ireland. One day, he was in the pub after watching his beloved Chelsea get stuffed 4-0 by Man Utd in the 1994 Cup Final. Suddenly a crowd of worshippers from Saturday-evening mass poured in. "Full of grace, they come across the road to get pissed," recalls Doyle. "And one guy said: 'Jesus, it's you. The priest was talking about you. You were the sermon! He was giving out shite about you!'"

What prompted Doyle's denunciation from the pulpit was RTÉ's broadcast of his TV drama *Family*, which, though seen by some as a valuable exposé of domestic violence behind closed Irish doors, was viewed by others as unfairly maligning the working-class people living where it was filmed.

"In a way, I thought: isn't that why I wrote the thing in the first place?" he says. "Not to annoy the priest and the parish but to really have a dig at official Ireland, to have dig at the authority of the Church and the authority of the state and their definition of the nature of Irishness, which didn't really tally with anything I knew. To a degree, I thought: 'Job well done.'"

The furore resulted in Doyle getting death threats. We are meeting days after the attempted murder of Salman Rushdie. Doyle wants to make clear that parallels are scant: "There was no money on my head, no need for security. What has happened to him for the past 30 years is appalling and what just happened is shocking. What really gets on my wick more than anything else is that all of this was designed by people who had never read the book [*The Satanic Verses*]." But what about the offence to some Muslims who see Allah and his prophet slurred by an apostate? "There is nothing wrong with offending people - sometimes it's a really good thing to do." Doyle certainly knows about the risk and value of offence, but the key word surely is "sometimes". Sometimes discretion is the better part of valour, as when, for instance, Doyle agreed to remove the N-word from his *Commitments* musical.

Life and soul

The *Commitments* musical during its West End run (below); and (bottom) Alan Parker's 1991 screen version



'There's nothing wrong with offending people. Sometimes it's a good thing to do'

For all that, Doyle believes the play he has just seen in rehearsal - and which he wrote the script for - is no historical curio about an Ireland that no longer exists. "They were saying lines that are just as valid today. It's still the story of a bunch of young people who get together to express themselves, the joy of that and the sexual tension. None of that has gone away."

Rereading the novel after many years, he also noted a glancing reference to priests' sexual abuse of children long before it became a national scandal. "It comes up just as a little joke between the people in the

band as they're getting ready for the first gig." After the interview I flick through the book to find it. Jimmy and Outspan are reminiscing about one Father Molloy. "Did he brown ye, Jimmy?" Outspan asks. "No," Jimmy replies. "He just ran his fingers through me curly fellas."

"Jokes were how you dealt with things like that," says Doyle. "When people said: 'Oh, we didn't have an idea then,' that wasn't true. Somehow Irish society did have an idea - not of the scale perhaps, but a sense it was happening. And it was in the book."

Today, the 64-year-old man of letters is rather distant from the young gun who poured something of himself into his plucky gobshite character Jimmy Rabbitte. Doyle has 11 novels to his name, eight children's books, plays, screenplays, short stories for the *New Yorker*, *Bookers* and *Baftas*, even a *Don Giovanni* libretto.

Sometimes, he admits, reading what his younger self wrote can be discombobulating. "From the perspective of a 64-year-old man, it's hard to get to the perspective of a 27-year-old who wrote *The Commitments*, or the 36-year-old who wrote *Family*. But is there anything I would do different, writing wise? No." What about the death threats? "I think if it happened today I'd be down to the Garda station and ask for their advice, but I wouldn't let it get to me too much. Then again there was no fatwa. My writing life hasn't involved much suffering."

The Commitments tours the UK and Ireland from 26 September.

Out



Going out & Staying in

A cultural primer for the week ahead, whether you're out going crazy or just feeling lazy ...

Cinema

See How They Run

Out now

Showbusiness can be murder, quite literally, in this comic whodunnit. A Hollywood producer attempts to turn a popular play into a film, only to be stymied by the deaths of various members of the production, prompting an investigation by officers played by Sam Rockwell and Saoirse Ronan (above).

Bodies Bodies Bodies

Out now

Marketed as the ultimate Gen Z slasher, this is in fact a delicious throwback to the dark and edgy horror-comedies of the 1990s, in which an array of repellent and rich teenagers meet various grisly demises, to the grief of absolutely no one. Pete Davidson and Rachel Sennott are the standouts in a fun cast.

Crimes of the Future

Out now

Canadian body horror godfather David Cronenberg - he of *The Fly*, *Videodrome* and *Crash* (the sexy one, not the Oscar bait) - has gathered together a stellar cast for his latest entertaining slice of psychological and physical dissection, in the delectable form of Viggo Mortensen, Léa Seydoux and Kristen Stewart.

Both Sides of the Blade

Out now

Claire Denis is on compelling form with this slow-burn exploration of a long-term relationship compromised by the reappearance of a former lover. Juliette Binoche and Vincent Lindon are thoroughly plausible as a couple confronting infidelity and a possible breakup. *Catherine Bray*

Gigs

Repercussion festival

Various venues, Manchester, Sat

Taking place across six stages, including the 10,000 capacity Depot, Manchester's day-to-night dance music festival returns for its second year. The lineup is frankly ridiculous, featuring Jamie xx, Little Simz, Goldie, Fred Again., Jamz Supernova, Sherelle and Mr Scruff.

Michael Cragg

Aminé

Sat to 17 Sept; tour starts

O2 Academy Brixton, London

The Portland rapper returns to the UK with last year's album, *TwoPointFive*, in tow. Brighter and more cartoonish than 2020's US Top 20 album *Limbo*, its 12 songs average around the two-minute mark but each one crams in as much as possible, with the giddy *Colors* touching the hem of hyperpop. *MC*

London Symphony Orchestra

Barbican Hall, London, Sun

In keeping with tradition, Simon Rattle begins the season - his last as the LSO's director - with a programme of British music. Daniel Kidane's *Sun Poem* is the new work; it's followed by Frank Bridge's neglected masterpiece *Enter Spring*, and Elgar's majestic *Second Symphony*. *Andrew Clements*

Chief Xian aTunde Adjuah

Koko, London, Tue

The New Orleans trumpeter-producer (below) returns with his ever-expanding jazz, hip-hop, blues and rock crossovers, and traditional-to-electronic self-made instruments. New Orleans's west African connections are a fascinating feature of his work. *John Fordham*



Art

Winslow Homer

National Gallery, London, to 8 Jan

This great American painter, who lived through the civil war and documented the aftermath of slavery, went on to paint churned-up, romantic seascapes (above) with foam-flecked echoes of Courbet and Turner. His eye for social injustice sees disaster at sea as an image of America's turmoil.

Mounira Al Solh

Baltic, Gateshead, to 2 Oct

This artist, who lives in Lebanon and the Netherlands, uses embroidery, writing, performance, film, drawing and painting to tell the stories of people - especially women - who have been forced to leave their homes by war and violence. She presents moving, real-life tales of upheaval and the experience of migration.

Edward Lear

Ikon, Birmingham, to 13 Nov

The high priest of Victorian nonsense was also a brilliant and adventurous landscape artist. While Constable and Turner had stayed in Europe, Lear loved to travel in the Middle East and north Africa. His on-the-spot sketches capture a world in motion in an age of massive global change.

Gainsborough

Waddesdon Manor, Buckinghamshire, to 30 Oct

The Pink Boy, recently restored, was painted by Gainsborough in 1782 and probably portrays Francis Nicholls. Dressed in a flamboyant costume inspired by the cavalier portraits of Van Dyck, this long-haired boy who would come to manhood in the Romantic age is compared here with other Gainsborough portraits. *Jonathan Jones*



Stage

Made in Leeds:
Three Short Ballets
Leeds Playhouse,
Sat to 17 Sept

Three one-act premieres from Northern Ballet. There's work by Ballet Black's Mthuthuzeli November and Stina Quagebeur of English National Ballet, but most intriguing is a piece based on Casanova's memoir, by Dickson Mbi, a powerful hip-hop dancer. *Lyndsey Winship*

Who Killed My Father
Young Vic, London,
to 24 Sept

Ivo van Hove directs the peerless Hans Kesting in this one-man play, which sees a son return home to his damaged and dying dad. Who is responsible for his father's ruin? Prepare to be devastated. *Miriam Gillinson*

The Glass Menagerie
Royal Exchange theatre,
Manchester, to 8 Oct
Atri Banerjee directs Tennessee Williams's oddly glittering memory play, with Geraldine Somerville starring as the family matriarch Amanda Wingfield. *MG*

Greenwich comedy festival
National Maritime Museum, London,
Wed to 18 Sept
A traditional herald of the autumn, this festival's mixed-bill, open-air gigs are usually populated by the cream of UK standup - and that's certainly the case this year, with sets from Simon Amstell, Ted Lasso star Brett Goldstein, Rosie Jones and Sophie Duker. *Brian Logan*



Streaming

Frozen Planet II
Sun, BBC One/iPlayer

After an 11-year wait, this sequel (above) to the landmark nature doc comes with a specially commissioned song, Take Me Back Home, by Hollywood composer Hans Zimmer and pop star Camila Cabello. But Sir David Attenborough is still the real star of the show; him and those emperor penguins.

American Gigolo
Sat, Paramount+
The 1980 Paul Schrader thriller charged the erotic fantasies of a generation. Now Jon Bernthal is slipping into Richard Gere's old Armani suits (they fit like a dream) to cruise the streets of LA, solve crimes and seduce wealthy women.

Sins of Our Mother
Wed, Netflix
Netflix true-crime docs are near-everyday occurrences, but this wild case is - thankfully - unique. How did Lori Vallow go from being a loving, responsible mother of three to a woman standing trial for murder? The answer involves doomsday cults and beach weddings, and is told from the perspective of her only surviving child.

Thursday Night Football
Thur, Amazon Prime Video
All five seasons of Emmy-winning drama Friday Night Lights have been streaming on Amazon Prime for a while now and Connie Britton's smile has undoubtedly drummed up international interest in the all-American sport. Now newcomers can watch regular NFL season games, plus swot up with real-time stats via the X-ray function. *Ellen E Jones*



Games

Metal Hellsinger
Out Wed, Xbox Series
X/S, PS5, PC

Doom fans and metalheads should keep an eye on this action shooter (above), in which you slay demons to a heavy metal soundtrack.

Sunday Gold
Out Tue, PC
A lively point-and-click adventure game about a bunch of cockney mobsters getting into scrapes in a dystopian London. *Keza Macdonald*



Albums

Oliver Sim - Hideous Bastard
Out now

With his rich baritone, Oliver Sim (above) anchored the emotional heft of his band the xx's songs. On his solo debut, which features production from bandmate Jamie xx, Sim explores issues around identity and shame, specifically in relation to his teenage HIV diagnosis. His songs are both dramatic and cathartic.

Santigold - Spirituals
Out now

Genre agnostic alt-pop pioneer Santi White returns with her first album in six years. Spirituals features input from British producer SBTRKT, Yeah Yeah Yeahs' Nick Zinner and the Weeknd collaborator Illangelo.

Sampa the Great - As Above, So Below
Out now

During the pandemic rapper Sampa Tembo returned from Australia, where she'd lived since 2013, to her home in Zambia. The country's influence and rich heritage permeates this second album, specifically single Never Forget's celebration of Zamrock, a genre born in the 70s that melds traditional Zambian music with psych rock.

Jockstrap - I Love You Jennifer B
Out now

Fusing the distorted electronics of producer Taylor Skye with singer Georgia Ellery's windswept orchestral flourishes and cherubic coo, the brilliantly named duo (below) aim to discombobulate. Recent single Glasgow, for example, touches on crystalline baroque pop, indie jangle and artful, found sound collage. *MC*



Brain food

Talks at Google
YouTube

This corporate interview series from Google isn't just about business and productivity. Its starry guests include musician Angélique Kidjo (above), comic Bowen Yang and actor Matt Damon exploring everything from the nature of creativity to the need for water conservation.

American History Hit
Podcast

Dan Snow's long-running series that chats its way through formative moments in history launches a spin-off show focused on American events. Presenter Don Wildman delves into the declaration of independence, the Hollywood blacklist of the 1950s and more.

Stolen: Hunting the Art Thieves
8pm, Sun, BBC Two
According to this three-part series, art worth £4bn is stolen each year. We follow the dramatic stories behind some of history's biggest heists, beginning with two £10m Turner paintings stolen from the Tate in 1994. *Ammar Kalia*

Lucas Bravo found fame as the ‘hot chef’ in Netflix’s frothy hit *Emily in Paris*. Now he’s starring alongside George Clooney and Julia Roberts. Don’t write him off as a mere heart-throb, he says

‘I was always a bit much’

Words: Fiona Sturges
Portrait: Gustavo Papaleo

Lucas Bravo, the French actor who shot to fame in 2020 playing Gabriel, AKA the “hot chef”, in Netflix’s *Emily in Paris*, would like to put a few rumours to bed. The first concerns his bank balance. “I saw on the internet the other day that my net worth is \$1m,” he says, with incredulity. “Imagine! There’s this impression that you do just one project and have this visibility, and suddenly you have a house in the [Hollywood] hills and you’re set for life.” Another is that, prior to acting, his main job was modelling. Given the thirst that erupted on social media when he first appeared in *Emily in Paris*, this wouldn’t seem unlikely. “I am not a model,” he says firmly. “My parents did take me to an agency when I was

16, and I did one runway for Paul Smith, but the experience wasn’t for me. Fashion felt like a cold place and I was too sensitive for it.”

Bravo, 34, lives in Paris, though he is talking from a hotel in New York where, fresh from an appearance on a US chatshow, he is wearing a floral shirt. Set against the flowery wallpaper and matching floral curtains behind him, he has the appearance of having melted into the wall. “The shirt seemed like a good idea when it was given to me this morning but I didn’t know I was going to end up in this room,” he says, anxiously. “It’s, um, a lot of information.”

This month Bravo will appear in two movies: the first, *Ticket to Paradise*, features George Clooney and Julia Roberts as warring exes, though when I ask him about it, he





STEPHANIE BRANCHU/NETFLIX; LIAM DANIEL/FOCUS FEATURES VIA AP

says explaining his role amounts to a massive spoiler, so he's been sworn to secrecy. "This is why I'm not in the trailer," he says, with a hint of sadness.

He is, however, free to discuss the second project, *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*, a determinedly old-fashioned, feelgood film set in the 1950s and starring Lesley Manville as a newly widowed cleaner who longs to own a couture dress. Chasing her dream, she must win over Paris's snooty fashion mavens. Bravo plays André, a shy accountant who befriends her.

"I feel like this is the kind of lighthearted story we need right now," says Bravo. "It's about a woman operating out of love and trusting the universe. We often forget that this industry was invented for distraction and escapism, and that it's fun to step into a movie theatre, be transported, and just turn off our brains for an hour or two."

He adds that it's refreshing to see a woman in her 60s at the centre of the story: "Putting aside the misogyny of the time, you have to remember that, in the 1950s, people of that age were considered to be near the end of their lives. Of course, the dress is really a metaphor, but she also wants the dress for the sake of having it. I like that about her, that she wants it just for herself."

Bravo was delighted to have been cast not as "the boy next door", as he describes his role in *Emily in Paris*, but a bona fide nerd. "André is a clumsy, solitary individual," he notes. "He wears a suit and glasses, and is into numbers. He is oblivious to social interactions. He is the opposite of my *Emily in Paris* character and I love that contrast."

Emily in Paris may not have turned Bravo into a millionaire, but it has made him exceedingly famous. The first series was streamed by 58m households in its first month. "I am super grateful for what *Emily in Paris* brought me and to [series creator] Darren Star for giving me a shot," he says. "So wherever the writing goes, I am committed to it. I wouldn't be here talking to you without it."

What about the critical mauling it received on account of its portrayal of Parisians who chain smoke, drink wine for breakfast and let their tiny dogs crap on the streets? Bravo isn't bothered. "People loved it or loved to hate it," he says. "I defend it not just because it's my project, but clichés are often clichés because they are rooted in truth. Of course, they are amplified

French fancies

Bravo in (from top)
Emily in Paris
and *Mrs Harris*
Goes to Paris



through the vision of Darren: everything is bigger and bubblier and more colourful. But it's his signature. It's pure escapism, a fantasy world."

What might seem like overnight success for Bravo is in fact the result of more than 10 years of graft. In his 20s, in between appearing in adverts and playing minor roles in French TV, he worked as a clothes shop assistant, waiter, bartender and supermarket shelf stacker. In that last job, he would arrive at 6am and spend two

'People loved *Emily in Paris* or loved to hate it. But clichés are often rooted in the truth'

hours arranging biscuits on shelves.

When the role in *Emily in Paris* came along, Bravo was working as a real-life sous-chef. He says the newfound attention was discombobulating. "It took me probably two years to understand what it was. It is said that the moment you get famous is the moment you stop growing, as you start to see yourself through other people's eyes instead of going into your own experiences. But now I feel at peace. I have strong anchors in my life with friends who I've known for decades, and with my family, so whatever happens outside of that doesn't mean much to me."

Bravo has previously spoken of his discomfort at being called a heart-throb and defined by his looks.



CULTURE

Does he still feel that way? “As an actor you want to be taken seriously and show your range,” he says, after a pause. “You don’t want to be stuck in a niche. So when this very bubbly dramedy first came out, with this boy-next-door character, part of me felt I was getting further from my objective, which is to play challenging roles. But that was my initial perception, and I think I projected this more than I experienced it. Now I’ve done other jobs, I’ve been able to not take things so seriously.”

Bravo does come across as a serious soul and admits he is guilty of overthinking things. In a recent gap between filming commitments, he took himself on holiday. Where some people’s idea of a break is to lie on a beach, Bravo’s was to visit the north pole to watch scientists measuring the effects of global warming. “I’ve always had a strong connection to the environment,” he says. “It’s different when you’re there and you can see it. We saw polar bears that were skinny because their hunting surface is diminishing. You can feel the distress when you’re there on the ground.”

While he was in Queensland filming *Ticket to Paradise* he took some time out to see the landscape and immerse himself in nature. “It feels like everything is trying to bite you or poison you. But I was so impressed



Specs appeal

Bravo as the ‘clumsy and solitary’ André in *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris*

‘You don’t want to be stuck in a niche. But now I’ve done other jobs, I don’t take things so seriously’

by how connected Australians are to nature. Not in a hipster way – they just know everything about their surroundings. I’ve always thought education should be revised, and that instead of making us learn dates of centuries-old battles, we should teach children to grow things, or how to heal themselves through natural recipes.”

Bravo’s fascination with film goes back to childhood. He would watch horror movies “because I wanted to see if I was strong enough to get through the movie alone. I watched Stephen King’s *It* when I was little and it traumatised me. My mother kept

telling me: ‘Be careful what you feed your brain,’ and it took me a long time to understand what she meant. But I know now that film is like food for the brain. What you ingest defines your creativity and how you perceive and interact with the world.”

His father is Daniel Bravo, a well-known French footballer, which meant the family moved around a lot. By the time he was 14, Bravo had lived in Nice, Lyon, Monaco, Marseille and Parma in Italy. He says it was tough to lose friends over and over again. “I was always surfing the wave of being the new guy. In my social interactions, I was a bit extra, a bit too much. I always thought: ‘I have to give everything to be accepted and fit in with this new group.’”

Nonetheless, it made him adaptable, which stood him in good stead for his future career. Bravo shied away from acting at first: “I saw a lot of people trying to get into it and thought to myself, ‘Why would I be any better than them?’” Now he finds it therapeutic. “I love the research into a character, as that gives me the tools to research and understand myself,” he says. “It brings you back to a state of contemplation, which is the opposite of what this world is providing right now. That’s got to be good, right?” *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris* is in cinemas from 30 September; *Ticket to Paradise* is in cinemas from 16 September.

LIAM DANIEL/FOCUS FEATURES VIA AP

HALLÉ

22/23 CONCERT SEASON
THE BRIDGEWATER HALL,
MANCHESTER

09.22–06.23

New concert season in
Manchester now on sale

www.halle.co.uk

WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER, 2.15PM
THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM
SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER, 4PM

TCHAIKOVSKY’S PATHÉTIQUE

Ravel La Valse

Dobrinka Tabakova ARTIST IN RESIDENCE Concerto for Cello and Strings
Tchaikovsky Symphony No.6, ‘Pathétique’

Delyana Lazarova CONDUCTOR • Guy Johnston CELLO

SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

ABBA SYMPHONICA

All of their greatest hits including: *Waterloo*; *Mamma Mia*; *Knowing Me, Knowing You*; *Take A Chance On Me*; *Money, Money, Money*; *Dancing Queen*; tracks from the new album, *Voyage* and many more!

Stephen Bell CONDUCTOR

Annie Skates, Emma Kershaw, Lance Ellington, David Combes VOCALISTS

THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER, 7.30PM

A HERO’S LIFE

Smetana Má vlast: Vltava

Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No.3

R. Strauss Ein Heldenleben

Sir Mark Elder CONDUCTOR • Pavel Kolesnikov PIANO



6.30PM IN THE AUDITORIUM, FREE TO CONCERT TICKET HOLDERS
Sir Mark and Pavel Kolesnikov in conversation

0161 907 9000 • www.halle.co.uk



THE CULTURAL PRESCRIPTION FOR ...

Cheating and corruption

From murky goings-on within Fifa to warring media scions, our critics select culture that delights in degradation



Music Brazil

Written in response to the accusations of corruption within Fifa around the 2014 World Cup, Declan McKenna's *Brazil* is multifaceted in its outlook, and all the more impressive when you consider that he was only 15 years old when he wrote it. Unravelling the "global north" snobberies that tend to assume everyone is striving for a life of upwardly mobile excess, it remains the brightest jewel in the singer's festival set, somewhat ironically encouraging the kind of terrace-worthy singalongs that a crooked footy exec would pay big bucks for. *Jenessa Williams*



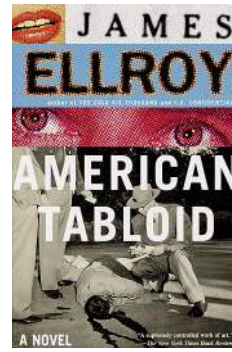
Film Widows

Chicago's nickname the Windy City is said to originate not just from the city's extreme climate but also its politicians - bruisers who were regarded as full of hot air. Steve McQueen's unsparing thriller takes us there, unveiling a world of political jostling and dirty money, where behind every squeaky-clean government initiative supporting racial justice is a white man with a famous last name and a safe full of secrets. Viola Davis plays Veronica, a teacher's union delegate who gets caught up with a local crime boss and must plan a heist to save her life. She brings together a group of similarly endangered women, each grappling with what it means to gain independence in a world tipped against them. *Rebecca Liu*



Television Succession

Corruption on drip feed. Inspired by the media empires of real-life families (ahem, no names here), it follows the devilish deeds of a father, his children, his employees and everyone caught in the crossfire in the battle for succession. Logan Roy (Brian Cox) shows not a sliver of integrity as he pits his children against each other, engages in criminal cover-ups and plays politics. But it's not all down to him. There's not one likable character: even Cousin Greg, who had some potential to be the moral heart of the series, joins in the blackmailing and backstabbing. It's deliciously awful in every way. *Hollie Richardson*



Book American Tabloid

James Ellroy describes his novel about the murder of JFK as "an epic in which the assassination is only one crime in a long series of crimes ... a novel of collusion ... a tabloid sewer crawl through the private nightmares of public policy". It shows a US that was never innocent, where there were criminals on every rung of the government ladder. Everything and everyone is corrupted - and that includes Ellroy's readers. He makes racing through this catalogue of degradation feel queasily addictive. He makes us start rooting for the bad guys. He makes us enjoy crime. And then feel terrible about it. This is one dark epic. *Sam Jordison*



Art An Election Entertainment

It's Partygate, Georgian-style, in Hogarth's rollicking revelation of just how corrupt 18th-century politics was. By election time, voters are being seduced not with fancy words but free oysters, gallons of punch, music and lobsters. It is all very edifying. One man has passed out over his seafood, another has been playfully bricked in the head. Other scenes in the series of four paintings show money changing hands and dead people voting. It's the world of "old corruption", supposedly swept away by the 1832 Great Reform Act. We wouldn't expect inappropriate partying from our politicians now, would we? *Jonathan Jones*



GALLERY VIEW

A faith in fabric

Drawing on Islamic design, Farwa Moledina aims to change perceptions of Muslim women, with detailed, colourful depictions of female strength, bravery and independence

Words: Kadish Morris

Since moving to the UK from Dubai in 2010, Birmingham-based artist Farwa Moledina has set about reclaiming the narrative around Muslim women. “I think there’s an erasure of Muslim women in contemporary art. There’s a singular narrative that you find in museum and gallery spaces. There’s never an alternative presented.”

Moledina creates strong, intricate works that incorporate patterns, textiles and symbols. She is inspired by the work of the Moroccan photographer Lalla Essaydi, who is best known for her depiction of Arabic female identity, and also by the writer Edward Said’s critique of orientalism.

Her forthcoming exhibition,

Women of Paradise at the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham, is inspired by the four women named by the prophet Muhammad as the Women of Paradise: Khadijah bint Khuwaylid, Fātima bint Muhammad, Maryam bint Imran, and Asiya bint Muzahim. “There’s something about each of their stories that are examples to us as Muslims. Their strengths, their bravery, their faith and their independence. They are role models.”

Moledina believes Khadijah’s story is particularly symbolic. She was the wife of Muhammad and was instrumental in spreading Islam. “She was a merchant. Prophet Muhammad was actually employed by one of her agents to go and do the selling. And on noticing his honesty and integrity, she proposed



No One Is Neutral Here

“This piece is a digital print on polyester, and the fabric of her clothes printed on to fabric results in a pale and imprecise reproduction of the original photograph,” explains Moledina. “It evokes reproductions of Muslim women within orientalist paintings and articulates my concern with the cultural construction of the ‘orient’ by western male painters.”

IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ARTIST





Maryam

"This piece alludes to Maryam, mother of Isa, otherwise known as Mary, mother of Jesus. It is rare to find depictions of Mary in museum or gallery spaces outside the Christian imagination; she is always Mary, never Maryam. This work provides a different perspective on this figure. The silhouette takes inspiration from the typical composition of Mary and Jesus found within Christian religious paintings."



Khadijah

"The wife of the prophet Muhammad, Khadijah was a merchant woman – she is a shining example of strength, faith and independence for Muslims. This piece features her tomb in Saudi Arabia before it was destroyed, verses from the Qur'an relating to her, and camels to symbolise her work as a merchant."



Not Your Harem Girl

"Inspired by the interiors in 19th-century orientalist paintings, Not Your Harem Girl aims to deconstruct the exotic and erotic orientalist tropes surrounding Muslim and eastern women. It particularly seeks to reclaim the orientalist concept of the harem. The pattern includes elements of Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres's La Grande Odalisque, embroidered text with the phrase 'Not Your Harem Girl' and a henna design of the same phrase."



marriage to him," Moledina says. "She supported him both emotionally and financially. This is a story of independence and endeavour that is inspiring for Muslim women. A lot of the time, the story you get is that Muslim women sit at home. They don't work. They're oppressed."

Moledina's work always starts with a pattern. She then creates intricately detailed, often colourful and decorated artworks that are inspired by the distinctive characteristics of Islamic design: floral motifs, geometric designs and calligraphy.

At Ikon, there will be four wooden frames shaped in the form of a mihrab, an arched nook that indicates the direction of prayer towards Mecca. They are typically ornately decorated, and form the focal point of a mosque.

In Moledina's work, a mihrab will frame a silhouette of each of the four women, who wear a burqa or a chador. The surrounding patterns and embroidery will tell the story and identity of the women.

Still, Moledina worries that by looking at the exotification of Muslim women, she could also end up tokenising them too. "It's quite a fine line that I need to navigate, to make sure that I'm making work about my lived experience, without orientalisising myself," she says. "With this work, I did feel a bit of responsibility. I have a daughter now. I want to take her to museums and galleries and I want her to see herself."

Women of Paradise by Farwa Moledina is at the Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, until 13 November.

8 Sep 22 — 8 Jan 23

barbican.org.uk

barbican

A major
survey of
the radical
artist

Carolee Schneemann Body Politics

ART FOUNDATION
MENTOR LUCERNE

TERRA
FO NDATION FOR MERI AN ART



The City of London
Corporation is the founder
and principal funder
of the Barbican Centre

Eye Body: 36 Transformative Actions for Camera, December 1963. Gelatin silver print, printed 2005, 61 x 50.8 cm.
Photograph by Erró. Courtesy of the Carolee Schneemann Foundation and Galerie Lelong & Co., Hales Gallery, and PPOW, New York
and © Carolee Schneemann Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / DACS, London 2022. Photo © Erró / ADAGP, Paris and DACS, London 2022

BOOKS

ESSAYS, FICTION *and* NONFICTION REVIEWS

**'I used to
have three
bodyguards,
now I have
one'**

Nobel prize winner
Orhan Pamuk on
Salman Rushdie's attack,
responding to extremism
in Turkey - and his
new, oddly prophetic,
pandemic novel.
By Lisa Allardice



THE TURKISH Nobel prize-winning novelist Orhan Pamuk never sleeps for more than four hours at a time. He likes to read and maybe write a bit when he wakes. So it was the middle of the night when he learned the news about the attack on Salman Rushdie in the US last month. Like Rushdie,

who has needed protection since a fatwa was decreed following the publication of *The Satanic Verses* in 1989, Pamuk has had bodyguards for 15 years, after he made comments about the 1915 mass killings of Armenians and Kurds in an interview in 2005. Pamuk and Rushdie became friends when they were both living in New York in the early 2000s.

Earlier that day, I had interviewed Pamuk on Zoom about his new novel, *Nights of Plague*, set on an imaginary island in the early 20th century, at the end of the Ottoman empire. Does it make him more fearful for himself, I asked in a follow-up call. “I would say cautious is the right word,” he replies carefully. At first, unable to sit in cafes, or stroll about his beloved city of Istanbul alone, he worried that having protection would distance him from the everyday life that is his inspiration. But over the years he has become “quite relaxed about it ... I’m used to it.” As he likes to joke: “I used to have three bodyguards, now I have one, which means Turkey is improving.”

Unlike Rushdie, the greatest threat to him is not necessarily from Muslim fundamentalists but Turkish nationalists. (Although as he points out: “These two groups are not too distant from each other, as Turkey is currently governed by an Islamic-nationalist coalition.”) He has already been investigated - twice - following the publication of his new novel in Turkey in March last year, for accusations of inciting “hatred and animosity” by insulting the founder of modern Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and ridiculing the Turkish flag. “On which page?” Pamuk asked the public prosecutor. “Of course, there is no page,” he exclaims into his computer screen. The investigation came to a dead end, he says. “They did not clear me nor did they charge me, so we are in limbo.”

He is talking not from Istanbul, the city where he has lived most of his life (he’s now 70), much of it in the same building, and which he has made his own in books including his bestseller *My Name Is Red* in 1998, and his memoir, *Istanbul: Memories and the City* in 2005. “Even if I write a novel that doesn’t take place in Istanbul, someone in it has a wish to go back to Istanbul,” he jokes. Today he is staying in his rented villa on the island of Büyükada, one and a half hours from Istanbul in the Sea of Marmara, where he has spent most of his summers since he was a child. Wearing a polo shirt, he is in holiday mode, but has been writing every day; for him writing isn’t working. He flashes me the view of palm trees and lush foliage from his desk. It is a fitting location from which to talk about his new novel, so evocative of Mediterranean island life you can almost smell the sea and bougainvillea; an island so rooted in the past that, until two years ago, horse-drawn carriages were the main form of transport.

Pamuk’s fictional Mingheria is also based on the tiny Greek island of Kastellorizo (Meis to the Turks), where

he often goes in May when it is still chilly in Istanbul, to “write, write, write, swim, swim, swim, and look at the island”, and the much bigger Crete. He is drawn to the fairytale magic of small places, he says. But he had to create a fictional island to ward off accusations of misrepresenting the past: “So my critics don’t come to me and say: ‘Hey, it was not like this!’” he explains. Clearly it didn’t work. It also had to be a small, isolated place, so “history would not move into my novel too much”.

History caught up with his novel anyway. Part romance, part murder-mystery, part historical novel, *Nights of Plague* is more enjoyable than a 700-page book on the bubonic plague deserves to be (for every description of rose-coloured marble or Mediterranean sunsets there are grisly ones of lancing buboes, rats and ravings). The novel is also, it hardly needs to be said, extraordinarily timely.

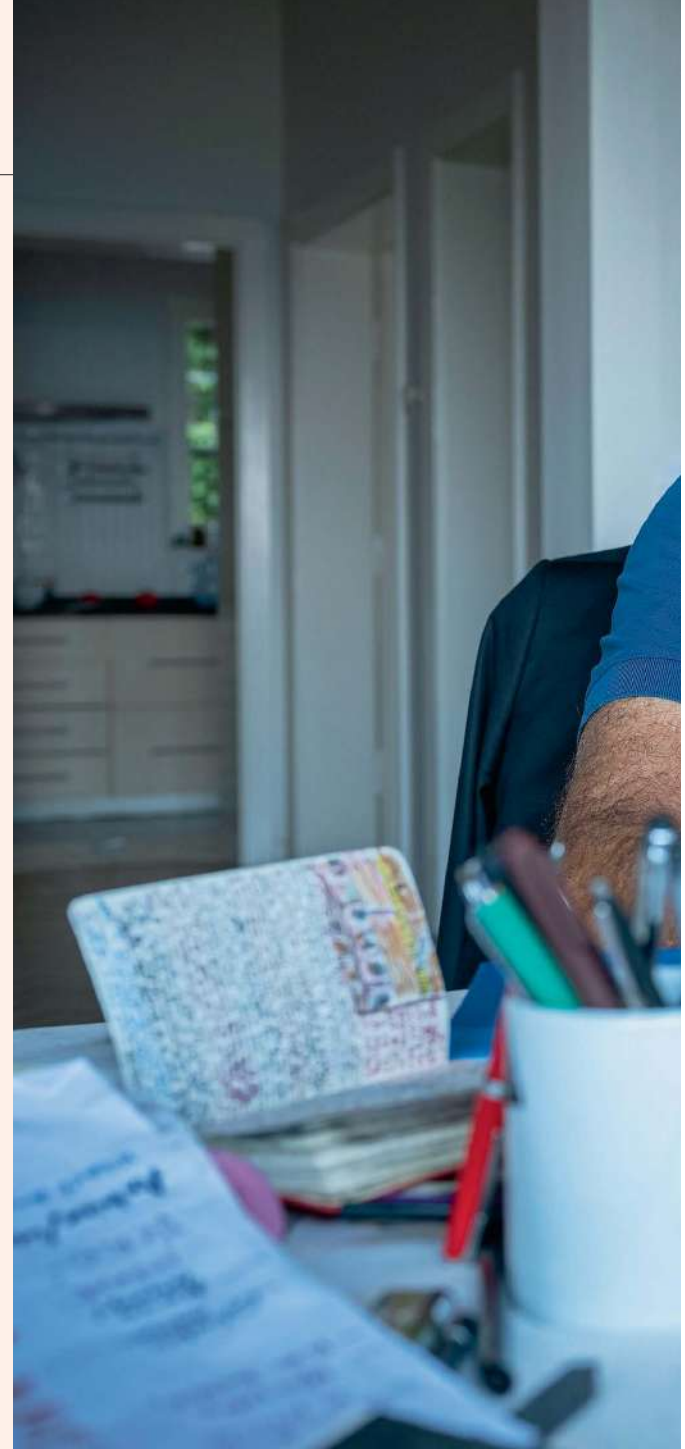
Pamuk had been contemplating writing about the plague for 40 years (it hovers over earlier novels as far back as *The White Castle* in 1985). But in 2016 he realised that the repression that inevitably accompanied an outbreak would provide the perfect allegory for “the increasingly authoritarian” turn of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s government. “I decided, ‘OK, why don’t I write my plague novel now?’” Then after three and a half years of research and writing, the pandemic struck. “I thought for a while that my little manuscript that I was slowly, slowly working on had suddenly spread,” he says. “As if the plague jumped from my manuscript to the whole world.” And it is true that all the horribly familiar markers of the pandemic - quarantine rules, hand sanitiser (known in Turkey, in 1915 and today, by its American trade name Lysol), the closure of schools and businesses, face masks and the terrible daily death count - are here, along with the attendant public denial, conspiracy theories and resistance.

“The panic of humanity,” as he calls it, started in March 2020, and he wrote solidly, often in 12-hour days, although Istanbul wasn’t officially in lockdown at that point. “I’ve been a writer for 50 years, which means 50 years of lockdown,” he says. When he first started writing, his friends told him: “No one will read your medieval book, who cares about plague now?” But as the pandemic took hold they changed their tune, calling him to say: “Well, you’re so lucky, it’s so topical.” In fact, he was “very scared”; his aunt, who lived two blocks away, was one of the first people to die of coronavirus in Istanbul. He would say to his now wife (he married his long-term partner Aslı Akyavaş in April): “I’m writing a novel and people are dying like flies. And it’s ironic. Am I a cruel person?”

He hoped when he finished the novel the epidemic would be over too. It didn’t work out like that. *Nights of Plague* was published in Turkey in March 2021, just as the country went into full lockdown. He recalls going for a walk around a deserted Istanbul, with his bodyguard, on “one of the special days” when only the over-65s were allowed to leave their homes. “There was no one except one or two elderly couples,” he says. “Then we came to the window of the biggest bookshop, where there was a tower of my books, but the bookshop was closed. There was no one to buy them.” He gives a big chuckle. “That was my luck.”

This is not the first time one of Pamuk’s books has turned out to be oddly prophetic. He was about to finish his novel *Snow*, which deals most directly with the conflict between secularism and fundamentalism in modern Turkey, when 9/11 happened. Margaret Atwood

‘A writer has to defend ideas of free speech and democracy – then you have to identify with the people who break those ideas’





Pamuk in his summer house at Büyükdada, near Istanbul

called it “eerily prescient” in a review at the time. Osama bin Laden appeared as a minor character in a couple of scenes, which he deleted before publication. He didn’t make any significant cuts to *Nights of Plague*, although he did “scale back the quarantine descriptions a bit”.

The novel is “a parable of independence, of how empires fall apart and how nations form”, he says. “It is an allegory about nation-building and about repression and authoritarianism.” Along with *Snow* it is undoubtedly his most political book. “My novelistic factory, my mind, is producing the same cloth. But this time the cloth is a little bit longer.” As he says, “It’s impossible to avoid politics and be a famous Turkish writer.”

The accusations of mocking Atatürk seem rather to miss the point: Major Kamil, taken by his critics to be based on Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, is a sympathetic and much loved character, whereas the historical figure of Abdul Hamid II – effectively the last Ottoman sultan – comes off much less favourably (although Pamuk has fun with the fact that he was a murder-mystery buff, with a particular interest in Sherlock Holmes). Pamuk is challenging the recent political glorification of the Ottoman empire, which has put the sultan “on a pedestal”, he says. “I also like the Ottoman empire, but not the cruelty, or the way in which it invaded other countries.” With *Nights of Plague*, he wanted to take a “nostalgic and melancholic look” at the end of the empire, without shying away from the violence or cultural losses it entailed.

The conflict between tradition and modernity runs

like the Bosphorus throughout Pamuk’s work. “I am notoriously an east-west writer,” he says. “All of my life has been about that. Some people say Turkish identity is tradition, others say Turkey should be all modernity. What I say is some part from modernity, some part from tradition. But the main argument is: which parts of the tradition should be picked up?”

He describes himself as a “moderniser”, but the nationalists and conservatives who criticise him “for being too much in love with the west” overlook the fact that he writes about the Ottoman era with such nostalgia. “I am a child of modern Turkey, which has excluded all the richness of Ottoman language, music, art,” he says. “These are my grandfather’s fathers. I like to observe that culture – how unstoppable, how inevitable was the decline.” The generation of leftwing Turkish writers who preceded him would never return to that era, “they would think it so boring and old-fashioned”, he says. “While I dig up Ottoman painters or quarantine systems or Abdul Hamid, they want Turkey to just forget all that. I do not.”

In the past he has been taken to task by fellow Turkish novelist Elif Shafak and Atwood for not writing strong female characters, a criticism to which he pleads guilty, at least in respect to his early work. “I agree it’s a man’s world, but Turkey was also a very male world at that time,” he says. “Then I really reformed myself.” *Nights of Plague* has no shortage of spirited women and is narrated by the great-granddaughter of a fictional niece of Abdul Hamid. He recalls being a guide when Arthur Miller and Harold Pinter visited Istanbul in 1985, five

years after the military coup. “Arthur Miller, being such a wise and balanced guy, looked at me and asked: ‘Didn’t these generals do anything positive?’ Everyone was shy, but I said: ‘Well, actually, they legalised abortion in Turkey.’” He tells me this, he says, to show that no one is all good or all bad, “it’s all mixed”. The overturning of *Roe v Wade* is “such a bad advertisement for America. Such a scandalous thing”.

One of the biggest challenges facing the quarantine officials in *Nights of Plague* was outrage at the closure of the churches and mosques. An unexpected irony thrown up by the pandemic, Pamuk points out, was that “in the early days Erdoğan behaved like an ultra-secularist and closed the mosques. While in the US Trump was saying he would not close the churches.”

A paper appeared on the door of Cihangir mosque, on to which his office in Istanbul looks, saying all the mosques in the country were closed because of coronavirus, with a government seal on it. No one objected, he says. “Even political Islamists in opposition did not raise their voices. And I asked myself why? One answer is because there is no free speech in Turkey.”

While Pamuk is by no means poor (he was born into a wealthy family and is Turkey’s bestselling writer), ink cartridges, along with everything else, have become so expensive in Turkey under Erdoğan’s “economic war of independence”, he has reverted to using old-fashioned refillable fountain pens. He always writes by hand, only using the computer to check his email and the news. He has developed a ritual of saving up the cartridges of his four fountain pens to fill at the same time: the more often he has to refill, the better his working day and the happier he is. “I am medieval in my habits: coffee, tea, water, work, work, work,” he says. “I don’t eat in the middle of the day because it makes me sleepy.”

In the room next door, an assistant is helping him to create a set of playing cards based on Persian miniatures for his next novel, which is set in 1942. He delights in imaginatively roaming across periods and locations, and feels it is part of a novelist’s duty to try to see the world from the perspective of “the Other” – the Islamic radical Blue in *Snow*, for instance, or the street vendor Mevlut in *A Strangeness in My Mind* (2014): “A different person, different age, a historical figure, a pre-modern mind: these are the joys and limits of writing fiction.” As a writer, he describes himself as “a patient, optimistic ant, who is consistently working and who knows that he will cover his distance in the end”.

He sees the attack on Rushdie, and extremism in general, as the result of “the anger of underrepresented people, people who are ignored, people whose faces we don’t see”. It is the novelist’s job to make these people visible and heard. “A writer has to defend the ideas of free speech and democracy. Then the writer also has to identify with people who break those ideas, and identification most of the time looks like legitimisation. This is the paradox of the writer.”

But he refuses to be too gloomy about the world. “Macron won. Trump lost,” he reminds me. “Why don’t we make a story of that?” He resists the view that rightwing populism and nastiness are spreading “like microbes” across the globe. “I’m not that pessimistic. I see Erdoğan’s polls are dramatically going down. Why should I be pessimistic?”

Nights of Plague by Orhan Pamuk, translated by Ekin Oklap, is published by Faber (£20) on Thursday.



Donald Trump supporters clash with police outside the US Capitol in 2021

Rage and delusion

A returning foreign correspondent asks whether the US is heading for civil war

Julian Borger

POLITICS
The Storm Is Here
 America on the Brink
 Luke Mogelson
 RIVERBUN, £25



IN EARLY MAY 2020, the American journalist Luke Mogelson left Paris – for years the base from which he covered strife and pestilence around the world – and went home to report on the accelerated unravelling of the US.

The idea of bringing a foreign correspondent back to write about their own country as if on assignment is not a new one. There is a whole subgenre of returning English reporters producing wry travelogues of the British Isles and their encounters with its quirky countryfolk. Mogelson's account of his return to the US has a great deal more edge to it, given his experiences in Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq, and amid horrifying outbreaks of disease in west Africa. There is nothing wry in his description of the United States, in the final year of Donald Trump's presidency, unable to contain a pandemic that would go on to kill more than a million Americans.

That pandemic is part of what has driven the increasing violence in US politics and society towards a tipping point. Mogelson's account of these forces, subtitled *America on the Brink*, makes clear that the two years between now and the next presidential election could determine whether it goes over that precipice into the sort of civil conflict he has been so accustomed to writing about elsewhere.

Fresh off the plane, he drove to Owosso, Michigan. A small barber shop had become the focal point of resistance to a decree by the state governor, Gretchen Whitmer, that "personal care services" should be shut down to help stop the spread of Covid. The sense of

affront rippling through the crowd quickly took on extravagant forms, with the restrictions portrayed as a dire threat to the republic and its people. It would later metastasize among a small splinter group into a plot to kidnap Whitmer and possibly to execute her for imagined treason.

Mogelson drives from one flashpoint to another over that febrile summer, from Lansing, to Portland, to Minneapolis, and finally to the scene of the denouement, the insurrection of 6 January in Washington.

Along the way, he charts the evolution of a strange soup of extreme right factions including the Proud Boys, the Three Percenters, the Oath Keepers and the Boogaloo Bois. He also describes the trajectory of the anti-fascist movement antifa, which emerged from a small circle of activists in 1980s Minneapolis who sought to emulate the British punks who took on the National Front, morphing into a plethora of grouplets determined to confront the far right on the streets.

Like the European leftist movements of the 1930s such as those in Britain that drove Oswald Mosley's blackshirts out of public spaces, their American descendants reasoned that the mortal threat fascists posed could not be left to the state to resolve and merited direct action. The fact that, by the summer of 2020, antifa was little more than a footnote to the Black Lives Matter movement did not stop Trump and the Republican party depicting it as a pervasive dark force that would come for Americans in their beds if Joe Biden won the presidential election.

Mogelson writes with the descriptive fluency and eye for detail that you would expect of a reporter with his credentials. But what makes this book more than a dystopian travelogue is his ability to tease out connections across history and make illuminating global comparisons.

He dips into his experience abroad, describing, for example, the extraordinary communal response to the Ebola virus in the Monrovia slums in 2014. Local leaders in the Liberian capital designed and enforced their own health measures in the absence of outside help. As a result, fewer than 30,000 people contracted the disease, compared to the 1.5 million that experts had predicted. Mogelson wondered at the time: "How would *my* country bear up under similar pressure?"

Six years later, he had his answer. Flying in from France, where residents had accepted stringent health measures pretty much without complaint as the price of containing the disease, he saw how in the US, questions of science were engulfed by the country's all-consuming culture wars.

Mogelson digs back through history to expose the roots of the national malaise. When a branch of Wells Fargo is sacked during unrest in Minneapolis, the scene of George Floyd's death, he notes the significance of the event. In the 19th century, the venerable bank's subsidiary, Wachovia, regularly accepted slaves as collateral for loans. Long after abolition, Wells Fargo continued to make mortgages available to white people only. The history of capitalism and racism were so tightly intertwined that the "legacy of free market enterprise could not be untangled from that of white supremacy".

In 2020, Trump held Independence Day celebrations at Mount Rushmore, and Mogelson decodes his rhetoric in part by telling the story of the rock beneath his feet.

The Black Hills of South Dakota are sacred to the Sioux, and in 1857 the US government signed a treaty guaranteeing them “absolute and undisturbed” dominion over the area. Then gold was discovered, and the promise was forgotten. George Custer was sent in to evict the Sioux, but instead was defeated and killed at Little Bighorn by the warriors of Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse.

The defeat triggered years of Sioux uprising, which resulted in reprisals and ethnic cleansing. With the approval of then-president Abraham Lincoln, 38 Sioux were hanged in December 1862, in what remains the largest mass execution in US history. In 1890, nearly 300 Lakota Sioux were massacred at Wounded Knee.

That was the history Trump - another white man fixated on gold - faced down at Mount Rushmore when he declared: “That which God has given us, we will allow no one, ever, to take away.” He continued: “Our nation is witnessing a merciless campaign to wipe out our history, defame our heroes, erase our values and indoctrinate our children.” He made no mention of the Sioux. The unseen enemy was amorphous.

In this way the rhetoric of Trump and the far right is one of inversion. In reviving a more than century-old backlash against Black and Native Americans, it presents white people as facing an existential threat, despite a complete lack of evidence. And an existential threat, however fuzzy, can be used to justify pretty much anything. As Mogelson writes: “There was no limit to the violence that might be perpetrated because there was no limit to the crimes that would provoke it. Both were products of imagination.”

He does not try to estimate the likelihood of an open civil conflict in the US, but points out that if it comes to pass, it would be uniquely bizarre, “a war fuelled not by injury but by delusion”. The problem for Trump and his supporters is that “because the only real thing about their war is their own belligerence, their own fear, they can never win”. Instead, he writes, “they can only rage endlessly against elusive phantoms”.

To buy a copy for £13.04 go to guardianbookshop.com

James Schneider was a co-founder of the Momentum movement, which backed Jeremy Corbyn



Left without Labour

A radical prospectus with a big flaw

John McTernan

POLITICS
Our Bloc
How We Win
James Schneider
VERSO, £8.99



Losing in a landslide is bewildering for those at the heart of a political campaign. Everything is possible, until the hammer blow of the exit poll falls. Then, with relentless predictability, members of the party that has lost first blame the voters, and then start to blame each other. James Schneider was a co-founder of Momentum, the political movement formed off the back of Jeremy Corbyn’s election as Labour leader, and was later the party’s head of strategic communications.

In his new book, he takes a different approach. Opening boldly, his first words are “defeatism plagues the British left”, and his introduction sketches his ambition: “To keep the possibilities open and turn winning from a distant hope into a reality, we must use the coming years to build power, weaken our opponents, and prepare ourselves for the next surge.”

At its best, the book is urgent and engaging. At just over 100 pages it is more of a pamphlet and the footnotes are vital, linking to books, blogs and articles, and pointing the reader towards a wide range of debates. The intellectual parenthood of the book is obvious - the political theorist Chantal Mouffe, and in particular her For a Left Populism, Antonio Gramsci’s Modern Prince and the work of Stuart Hall. Such influences set severe standards, though, and Schneider fails to meet them.

There is, at times, a slapdash feel to the work. For example, a claim that “Labour last polled at 40% ... in April 2019” has been out of date since at least June 2020 (and, at the time of writing, Labour has led the Conservatives in the last 200 national polls).

The broader problem is that of all the “opponents” Schneider most wants to weaken, the one that looms largest in his mind is the Labour party, which his chapter “Capital’s A and B Teams” paints as indistinguishable from the Conservatives. Historically, there is a rich debate about the role of Labour in leading the reform of the UK, but it is the only political organisation that has ever delivered lasting social democratic change to this country. After the bleakest electoral defeats, as in 1935, 1983 and 2019, it can seem that Labour is too weak to win, but too big to die. Yet it has twice bounced back from the dead to create the radical governments

of Clement Attlee and Tony Blair, both of whom wrought irreversible social, economic and institutional changes.

There has been a burst of radical energy in Britain over the last few years - Schneider correctly cites Black Lives Matter (BLM) and Extinction Rebellion, along with successful union organising. But simply grouping independent organisations together doesn’t make a new social movement, and the heart sinks when he discusses how to build a new force: “[A] campaign for public ownership of water could teach people about neoliberalism through reading, videos and shareholder stunts at the AGMs of privatised utilities.” Equally uninspiring is the suggestion that “we can learn from cutting-edge examples of progressive municipal government, such as Barcelona’s public management of data”. As Orwell nearly said: “If you want a picture of the future, imagine attending a political education meeting - for ever.”

Where is the joy? Where is the flair? The striking thing about The World Transformed - the groundbreaking, Corbyn-supporting fringe festival at the 2016 Labour conference - was the sheer sense of fun. Changing the world is a serious business, but it needn’t be dull. This is the missing heart of Our Bloc. For most of the last decade, the most interesting thinking on the British left has come from its left - from New Socialist and Novara Media to the sharp insights and brutal humour of podcasts such as Trashfuture. The intellectual energy that powered the rise of Corbyn was real, and it puts Labour party moderates to shame that the centrist intellectual touchstone Anthony Crosland’s The Future of Socialism is nearly 70 years old. Yes, the Labour manifesto was soundly rejected by voters in 2019, but it was enthusiastically endorsed by the same electorate in 2017. The UK left has to internalise the fact that both general elections were equally consequential: currently moderates focus on the landslide in 2019, and the left celebrate successfully destroying a Tory majority in 2017. Both sides are right - and both sides need each other.

I only broke the first lockdown once, to attend the BLM demonstration in central London. My politics took me and my family there. Yet, there is no place in Our Bloc for a Blairite supporter of BLM. The key to living, and thriving, together is for both sides in the Labour party to accept that in 2017 and 2019 Corbynism asked many of the right questions but very often got the wrong answers. If you want to see change in the UK, the Labour party is like the landscape in We’re Going on a Bear Hunt: “Can’t go over it, can’t go under it, can’t go around it, got to go through it!”
John McTernan was Tony Blair’s director of political operations, 2005-07. To buy a copy of Our Bloc for £8.36 go to guardianbookshop.com

Body of evidence

Under the skin of Greco-Roman society

Charlotte Higgins

HISTORY

Exposed

The Greek and Roman Body
Caroline Vout

PROFILE, £25



Think of the Greek or Roman body, and what might come to mind is the chilly perfection of a marble sculpture. The Apollo Belvedere, for example: a Roman copy of a Hellenistic original, rediscovered in the Renaissance, installed in the Vatican by Julius II, regarded as “the miracle of art” by 18th-century German art historian Johann Joachim Winckelmann.

In *Exposed*, Cambridge classicist Caroline Vout takes a very different approach. The bodies she considers are fallible and fleshy; they are sticky, malodorous and unpredictable. Some are disabled. Some are enslaved, abused or exploited. (There is a sobering passage on the law code of Gortyn in Crete which, in the fifth century BC, recorded that if a free man raped a free woman he was fined 1,200 obols. For the rape of an enslaved woman the fine was 1 obol – or 24 if she was a virgin.)

These were bodies that self-administered abortions (as did Corinna, the addressee of Ovid’s love poems); people who, like the poet Sappho, felt lust and jealousy course through their limbs – in Anne Carson’s translation, “tongue breaks and thin / fire is racing under skin / and in eyes no sight and drumming fills ears / and cold sweat holds me ...” Beauty, the kind of beauty displayed by the Apollo Belvedere, is only part of the story, Vout argues. “For every fifth-century Athenian pot that shows an older man courting a beautiful youth, there is another showing someone throwing up, urinating, shitting,” she writes.

Vout tackles a huge range of ideas and subjects with irrepressible energy. Where did the Greeks think humans came from? (Hesiod had the gods make them from clay; pre-Socratic philosophers such as Anaximander anticipated evolutionary theories.) What was the relationship between the body and the soul? (A foray into Plato here.) What about the “body politic”? Vout shows that as Rome slid into autocracy, the body of the ruler became increasingly important. The famous Prima Porta statue of the emperor Augustus had his military power inscribed on his body, by way of his breastplate depicting the recovery of the standards lost at the Battle of Carrhae. The bodies of dictators, such

as Vladimir Putin with his he-man poses, remain full of symbolic currency.

Exposed joins other volumes by classical scholars intended for a broad audience, such as Mary Beard’s *Pompeii* and James Davidson’s *Courtesans and Fishcakes*, that have attended to the appetites, lusts and foibles of the people of the Greco-Roman world. But where Beard focused on first-century Pompeii, and Davidson on fifth-century BC Athens, Vout’s canvas is vast, taking her on a 1,000-year journey from a close read of a sixth-century BC ceramic bowl decorated by the painter Sophilos, to St Jerome advising a female follower in the fifth century AD to express holiness by starving herself almost to death.

This is an ambitious project, at times dizzyingly so, all written in a zippy, demotic style. (The god Apollo, for example, is “not just easy on the eye but a whizz at medicine too”.) Her thematic approach – chapters include “Sex and Society” and “Bodybuilding” – means the leaps through space and time can be disorienting. But disorientation is perhaps part of the plan, in the sense that Vout is keen to rob her readers of any sense of false familiarity with these Greeks, Romans, Romano-British, Palmyrenes and the rest. Some of the most hair-raising passages relate to medical theories. Missed a period? One remedy involved spending “three days passing the vapour from a jar containing a dead puppy through a reed up into the vagina”. Or you could try sleeping in the temple of Asclepius, where one patient, every morning for 120 days, ate 15 peppercorns and half an onion. The whole is a book full of arresting, sometimes startling ideas and facts that topple the Greeks and Romans from their pristine, snow-white pedestals.

To buy a copy for £21.75 go to guardianbookshop.com

One of a kind

Fame and frustration as

Henry hits the big time

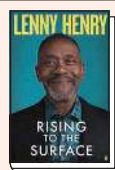
Fiona Sturges

MEMOIR

Rising to the Surface

Lenny Henry

FABER, £20



When the comic and actor Lenny Henry attended the first writers’ meeting for his early-1980s sketch series *Three of a Kind*, he and his co-stars, David Copperfield and Tracey Ullman, were asked to speak about their vision for the show. Copperfield stood up and

said he wanted it to be as funny as possible. Ullman said she didn’t want to play a sexy secretary, a nagging wife or any other female stereotypes that were a staple of the era. Henry, who had appeared on *The Black and White Minstrel Show* in the 70s, stated that he didn’t want his race to be the butt of the jokes: “I wanted the attitude to black performers to change. It was time that we were the maker of the joke, not simply the taker. Enough was enough.”

Rising to the Surface is the second instalment of Henry’s memoirs that began with 2019’s *Who Am I, Again?* Where that book covered his formative years, beginning with the arrival of his parents in Dudley, from Jamaica, and concluding in the late 70s as he began to establish himself in the entertainment business, this covers his rise to fame, starting with the children’s show *Tiswas* and going mainstream with the BBC’s *Three of a Kind*. In 1984, he was given his first solo series, *The Lenny Henry Show*, which ran on and off for 20 years. We learn how, in that time, he also co-founded *Comic Relief* with Richard Curtis; met and married Dawn French; toured as a standup; was the subject of a *South Bank Show*; wrote children’s books; and, most unexpectedly, recorded backing vocals for Kate Bush’s album *The Red Shoes*. There was also a failed attempt to conquer Hollywood with the comedy *True Identity*, in which Henry plays a

There is melancholy amid the anecdotes in Henry’s book

crook who disguises himself as a white man to escape the mob. The script was terrible and he loathed the lack of autonomy. “In my mind I felt myself careening downhill towards a large wall in a car with no brakes,” he recalls. The film duly tanked.

All this is relayed with characteristic exuberance and self-deprecation, though there is irritation at being the only Black comedian on British television with his own show in the 80s and 90s: “I was just like Christopher Lambert in that film *Highlander* – ‘There can be only one.’” In his first memoir, Henry questioned his reluctance in his youth to stand up to racists, a hangover from what he calls his mother’s “h’integration project” where he was told to fit in at all costs. But here we see him using his position to help others, founding a production company and a writing programme with the aim of creating vehicles for Black comedians.

Between the anecdotes and showbiz stories, there is a seam of melancholy too. Henry’s ambitiousness has a frantic quality; he never stops wondering if he could be doing more, or better, and reflexively says yes to everything. As a result, he misses out on his mother’s last years, and spends long periods away from French and their daughter, Billie. In the epilogue, he imparts what he regards as his greatest wisdom: “The work never really goes away. It’ll be there when you get back. So go spend time with your family.”

To buy a copy for £17.40 go to guardianbookshop.com



JACK LAWSON MCDONALD



McEwan shows self-interrogative courage in *Lessons*

A lesson in luck and squandering

This life-and-times epic of a feckless boomer sees Ian McEwan back on form

Beejay Silcox

IAN MCEWAN'S LAST BOOK, 2019's *The Cockroach*, was a petty-hearted Brexit fable and Kafka spoof. Instead of a man waking in the body of a bug, a bug wakes in the body of the British prime minister. Ensconced at No 10, the insect PM sets about creating a squalid paradise for his fellow critters – a septic isle. It's not hard to reduce the UK to filth and ruin: just give the idiot humans exactly what they want. The *Cockroach* was less a satire than a sneer, a book that set out to entrench rather than interrogate the divisions that led to Brexit. It was all carapace, no guts: a testament to the easy, insular comforts of self-righteousness. It seemed McEwan had finally succumbed to that curmudgeonly old cliché, the young renegade turned sour and incurious. And so, when it was announced that the veteran author's new novel would be a 500-page sociopolitical epic – “a chronicle of our times” – it was hard not to be wary. Even the title felt like a scold: *Lessons*.

McEwan's 17th novel is old-fashioned, digressive and indulgently long; the hero is a gold-plated ditherer, and the story opens with a teenage wank (few books are improved by an aching sentimental wank). But *Lessons* is also deeply generous. It's compassionate and gentle, and so bereft of cynicism it feels almost radical. Can earnestness be a form of literary rebellion?

In October 1962, at the height of the Cuban missile crisis, an English schoolboy arrives unannounced at his piano teacher's house. He stands on her doorstep in his drainpipe trousers and sharp-toed winklepickers, twitchy with eroticised terror. The boy, Roland Baines, is 14; his teacher, Miss Cornell, is 25. Roland fears that the world is about to end, and he will die a virgin. Miss Cornell does not turn him away. What happens between them in that quiet cottage will score a line across Roland's life. It is “the moment from which all else fanned out and upwards with the extravagance of a peacock's tail”.

The encounter reeks of schoolboy fantasies: an insatiable older woman who offers carnal instruction, then repairs to the kitchen to prepare a Sunday roast.

But this discomfort is McEwan's point. Roland will forever struggle to give his encounter with Miss Cornell moral shape, to pin down “the nature of the harm”. He will mistrust his memory, his intentions, his desires. “You'll spend the rest of your life looking for what you've had here,” Miss Cornell warns him. “That's a prediction, not a curse.” It is both.

Roland will “drift through an unchosen life” – a creature of reaction. He will drift into marriage and fatherhood, he will drift from career to career, and he will drift through postwar Britain. The reunification of Europe; glasnost and perestroika; Thatcherism and the Aids crisis; New Labour and the Iraq invasion; Brexit and the pandemic: feckless Roland will drift through it all. “By what logic or motivation or helpless surrender did we all, hour by hour, transport ourselves within a generation from the thrill of optimism at Berlin's falling wall to the storming of the American Capitol?” *Lessons* asks. Roland is McEwan's answer – a man who is forever mistaking his indecision for powerlessness, and his comforts for luck. *Lessons* is a portrait of sociopolitical entropy, a lesson in squandering.

McEwan's sights are aimed squarely at the generation to which he belongs: those postwar children who “loll[ed] on history's aproned lap, nestling into a little fold of time, eating all the cream”. Roland is a prototypical baby boomer: raised by war-haunted veterans, loved at arm's length, and schooled in “nuanced loutishness”. At his state boarding school, young Roland watches his classmates learn to be “conservative guardians of the existing order”, and perfect their tools of influence: satire, parody, mockery. As an adult, he watches as those same bullyboys weaponise that scorn. And yet, beyond smuggling Bob Dylan records into East Berlin in his 20s, Roland is never quite impelled to do anything; he's complicit in his complacency. He's voted the right way, after all: his conscience is clear.

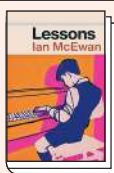
The self-interrogative courage that was so palpably missing from *The Cockroach* is here. So, too, is the humour (a fight with a junior minister – two silver-haired gents wrestling over cremation ashes – is a last-act delight). *Lessons* is McEwan's answer to William Boyd's *Any Human Heart*, John Williams's *Stoner*, or Richard Ford's *Bascombe* trilogy: novels that refract history through the life of one man. They are novels pinned to time but, in their intimacies, they also affirm something elemental. *Lessons* is the book it hopes to be: a hymn to the “commonplace and wondrous”, a tale of humane grace.

But it's the female characters – from joyful children to art monsters – who give this novel its heft and verve (and perhaps its title). Next to them, McEwan's everyman feels a little gormless and grey. There's Miss Cornell, of course, with her piano lessons and her terrifying thrall; and Roland's timorous mother, whose cast-iron silences hide a story of wartime shame. There's Roland's best friend, who teaches him how to die; and his mother-in-law, who – for the briefest of moments – lives the life she wanted. And then there is Alissa, Roland's first wife, who chooses her writerly ambitions over motherhood, and leaves him in embittered awe.

Roland learns from them all, lesson after lesson, everything from the demands of genius to the virtue of a clean kitchen table. It's a wearying trope: women as instruments and catalysts of male insight. But as Roland's granddaughter reminds him: “A shame to ruin a good tale by turning it into a lesson.”

To buy a copy for £13.04 go to [guardianbookshop.com](https://www.guardianbookshop.com)

Lessons
Ian McEwan
JONATHAN CAPE, £20



The king killers

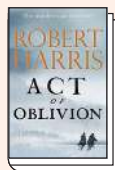
Robert Harris's gripping 17th-century manhunt

Andrew Taylor

Act of Oblivion

Robert Harris

HUTCHINSON HEINEMANN, £22



In 1675, the scattered tribes of New England formed an alliance and rose up against the English colonists who were forcing them off their land. At that time Hadley was a small, remote settlement on the Connecticut river. One Sunday, when the God-fearing inhabitants were in church, the Norwottuck tribe launched an all-out assault.

From nowhere a stranger appeared, a middle-aged man who raised the alarm, organised the town's defences and led a brutally efficient counterattack. Afterwards he vanished as abruptly as he had arrived.

The town's unknown saviour became known as the Angel of Hadley. The mystery of his identity soon gained an extra frisson: it was rumoured that the Angel was the fugitive Major General William Goffe, a man with a huge reward on his head. Goffe was one of the regicides, the men who signed Charles I's death warrant, whose lives had become forfeit after the Restoration of the monarchy.

Robert Harris is a remarkably versatile novelist whose settings range from Ancient Rome to 800 years in the future. A former political journalist, he often explores the darker aspects of politics and its corrupting effects on individuals. Here he looks at one of the great conflicts of English history: the bitter civil war between royalists and parliamentarians. The extremists on both sides were imbued with an absolute conviction that they operated under *carte blanche* from God.

The execution of the king was the defining event of this struggle. Harris chooses to focus instead on the lives in exile of two of the regicides, Goffe and Edward Whalley. In 1660, they fled to America, where many of the colonists were Puritans with no love for the king. Both men were distinguished soldiers. Whalley was Oliver Cromwell's cousin, a trusted member of the Lord Protector's inner circle, and Goffe was Whalley's son-in-law. We know tantalisingly little about their lives in America. They lived in hiding, in constant fear of arrest by the royalist agents who were searching for them.

As the German poet and philosopher Novalis remarked more than two centuries ago, novels arise out of the

shortcomings of history. Harris sets out to plug the gaps in the record, and succeeds remarkably well. He's writing fiction, but he treats the few available facts and the more plausible theories with respect, and skilfully extrapolates from them.

Every quarry needs a hunter. Harris counterbalances Whalley and Goffe with Richard Nayler, the fictional secretary to the regicide committee of the privy council, who has a powerful personal reason to want them dead. Meanwhile in London, Frances, Goffe's devoted wife and Whalley's daughter, provides another viewpoint. The novel's narrative structure moves to and fro between them, ultimately leading to a brisk if slightly implausible conclusion.

It's not only the hunt that interests Harris: it's also everything that led to it - the civil war, the execution of Charles I and the years of the Commonwealth and Cromwell. He deals with this in a series of flashbacks, which include some of the most dramatic scenes of the novel. Whalley, the nearest thing the book has to a protagonist, uses his enforced leisure to write an account of his life for Frances. Extracts from this mingle with his memories, and with a reassessment of his own life and beliefs.

Harris underpins the book with substantial research and writes in unobtrusively effective prose (his pastiche of 17th-century English is particularly good). It's not easy to make Whalley and Goffe sympathetic to a modern sensibility. They were hardcore Puritans who believed that only the elect would go to heaven, that their aggressively righteous ends justified their often ruthless means and that the world would come to an end in 1666 (on the divine authority that 666 was the Number of the Beast). The novel's greatest achievement is that it makes us understand them,

Connecticut River, Massachusetts, the scene of conflict in Act of Oblivion



even like them, while paying the same compliment to the equally fanatical Nayler. This is Harris at his best, which is very good indeed.

Andrew Taylor's latest novel is *The Royal Secret* (HarperCollins). To buy *Act of Oblivion* for £19.14 go to guardianbookshop.com

Fate v free will

A heartfelt search for home and meaning

Jude Cook

Undercurrent

Barney Norris

DOUBLEDAY, £16.99



From his 2016 debut, *Five Rivers Met on a Wooded Plain*, prolific novelist and playwright Barney Norris has never been afraid to address the Big Stuff. The brevity of life; the fragility of love; the mysteries of memory and consciousness. Through an array of unnervingly convincing ventriloquised voices, he has excelled at pinpointing the pivotal moments in his characters' emotional lives. His fourth book, *Undercurrent*, is equally engaged with universal themes, with a Hardy-esque focus on chance, agency and grief. However, while each of his first three novels transfixed the reader with a series of claustrophobic, almost unbearably intense monologues, Norris switches here to the ventilated space of a single first-person voice.

We meet the thirtysomething narrator, Ed, at a wedding, stuck in an unhappy relationship with his indifferent girlfriend, Juliet: "I have stopped being happy somewhere ... When did that happen? And what am I going to do about it?" Ed decides that he has become "unmoored in the midst of life", but his fate is changed by encountering Amy, the wedding's

photographer. Except it's not the first time they've met. He discovers that Amy is the girl he saved from drowning during a childhood swimming misadventure; a cosmic accident, and an opportunity he feels strangely impelled to explore: "These choices present themselves to us thousands of times every day, and turn into our lives." They quickly become a couple and begin a life of tentative cohabitation, meeting Amy's adoptive parents and Ed's own mother and stepfather on the Welsh farm where he grew up.

The chapters describing Ed and Amy's sweet, rather conventional relationship are juxtaposed with plunges into the deep past of 1911, where we discover the Indian heritage of Ed's ancestors and the unpredictable blows of fate that shaped their lives. While this narrative choice is reminiscent of Sunjeev Sahota's recent novel *China Room*, it's not as fully successful or integrated as it might be. We long to return to Ed in the present, and his elegant catastrophising: "It is so brief, this thing we're in, so fragile, and only one thing is certain - the end approaching each of us."

Like the everyman heroes favoured by Julian Barnes and David Nicholls, Ed is a certain type: provincial, sexually timid, prudent with money, but fiercely principled and deeply emotional underneath the awkwardness and reserve. As stolidly lower-middle class and British as a fish finger tea, Ed is torn between thought and action, neurotically aware, like Hardy's *Tess*, that his own death date is "a day which lay sly and unseen among all the other days of the year". Though he lives in London and writes advertorial copy for a living, there's little urban amplitude to his existence. Instead, it is his own interior interrogation that bears the novel's philosophical weight: the idea "that somewhere there's a centre, there's a place called home that's the rootnote of your life".

This search for home leads Ed back to the farm. When his mother is taken seriously ill, he's forced to unpick their simultaneously antagonistic and sentimental relationship, along with his attitude towards his tenderly attentive stepfather, and the ghost of his dead alcoholic father. Yet even in the face of a crisis he can't help meditating on "these secret currents which align our lives". Even as you fear his near-constant ruminations on life are impeding the action, you realise they *are* the real action of the story and make peace with them.

The novel's title is taken from Bill Evans's 1962 album *Undercurrent*, which Ed plays in the car on his long drives to Wales: "The rhythms surprise and mislead; I find myself listening uneasily, not knowing what's coming next." The theme of determinism versus free will is finely expressed by the metaphor of the unseen

undercurrent; how life's circumscribing duties and habits are undone by the unexpected. While once he yearned to "live clear of the current that took hold of most people's lives and wore them down", Ed now sees he must embrace change in his new life with Amy, whatever it may bring.

By the end, Norris hits this universal note squarely and successfully. At this point, the book's visual imagery - birds, shadow and sunlight and, most importantly, water - is superbly under control. Undercurrent is a defiantly unfashionable, heartfelt, emotionally vulnerable novel about mothers and sons, letting go of the past and saying what you need to say to your loved ones before it's too late.

To buy a copy for £14.78 go to guardianbookshop.com

Translation is magic

An explosive vision

of the British empire

Natasha Pulley

Babel

RF Kuang

HARPER VOYAGER, £16.99



Welcome to Babel: the great Oxford translation institute in an alternative version of Victorian England, where translators hold the keys to the British empire. Every device and engineering technique there is, from steam trains to the foundations of buildings, relies on silver bars enchanted with "match pairs"; words in two different languages that mean similar things, but with a significant gap between them. The bars create the effect of the difference: feelings, noises, speed, stability, colour, even death. The magic comes from "that sublime, unnameable place where meaning [is] created".

Bright children are taken from all corners of the empire, fluent in Chinese or Arabic, raised in England, and put to work at Babel to translate, thus finding new match pairs and making new magic - only ever used for the benefit of the rich in London, and to the detriment of those the translators must leave behind in their colonised homelands. We follow Robin Swift from his childhood in China, through his time at Babel, and from his hope that translation is a way to bring people together, to the terrible realisation that, in this colonial framework, "an act of translation is an act of betrayal".

If it sounds complicated, that's because it is. This is a scholarly book

by a superb scholar - Kuang is a translator herself. The pages are heavy with footnotes, hectoring and preachy in a parody of the 19th-century tomes Swift and his friends at Oxford must study. The characters' conversation flies from theories of translation to quotations from Sanskrit; they are pretentious, but vulnerable too, and the balance is lovely.

The fantastical elements underpin real history, rather than alter it; silver magic is what makes everything happen, and the grandest event it causes here - the fulcrum on which the novel turns - is the first opium war. The British empire is endlessly hungry for more silver and, in order to get it, becomes a huge drugs cartel, growing poppies in India and forcing China to buy opium. The young Babel translators become hopelessly tangled in the problem of whether to serve the corrupt institute that has given them opportunity and education, or their own people. This is not at all a far cry from Kuang's acclaimed Poppy War trilogy, based on 20th-century Chinese history, and so fans will be in familiar territory.

Even against a whole background of clever things, the triumph here is the narrator. Swift is a complicated man. Born into poverty in China but raised by a wealthy father in England, he embodies all kinds of contradictions. On one hand, he's an overprivileged, middle-class Hamletty brat whose headaches are always worse than anyone else's. It comes as a revelation to him that working-class people have a hard time, because he doesn't know any. But he is also brave, and noble, and endlessly willing to have his worst side policed by his friends. He's a little boy who decides that his father's housekeeper's scones are "the Platonic ideal of bread". He's a naive student so shocked by the unfairness of the world behind all his money and his university that he struggles to see how to live in it. Like a set of dangerous silver match pairs, these contradictions can never quite translate each other, and they have explosive results.

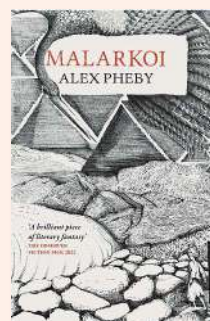
This is a grim and harrowing novel; many of the characters have poisonous opinions about race, and Swift becomes increasingly embittered. The antagonists are closer to demons than humans, with no nuance, and they do sickening things. Often the allure of fantasy is escape from the real world, but there's no escape here; Kuang's use of the genre does not soften real history but sharpens it. Babel asks what people do when they reach positions of power - while being set in a time and place where reaching those positions would, in the real world, have been impossible. It is a fantastically made work, moving and enraging by turns, with an ending to blow down walls.

To buy a copy for £14.78 go to guardianbookshop.com

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Science fiction and fantasy

The eagerly awaited sequel to *Mordew*; mysterious visitors to a distant-future Earth; plus climate fiction that speaks to our fears and hopes. By Lisa Tuttle



Malarkoi

Alex Pheby

GALLEY BEGGAR, £17.99

Mordew, the first volume in the trilogy, was hugely praised, and this sequel is eagerly awaited. It is certainly as unusual an epic fantasy as its predecessor, but the narrative has shattered into multiple storylines from multiple viewpoints, and none (apart from the talking dog) is quite as engaging as the original protagonist. It can be a struggle to keep up with all the characters, their alliances, enemies and progress; and despite leavenings of dark humour, the situations are unrelentingly grim. This is a world where magic works because it is fuelled by sacrifice, so demigods and magicians maintain their power with casual mass slaughter. Pheby is an original but this is not a book fans would wish to live in.

Beyond the Burn Line

Paul McAuley

GOLLANCZ, £22

In the far distant future, after the self-immolation of human civilisation, convergent evolution has given rise to a new intelligent species. The first section of the novel feels rather like a Le Guinian fantasy as it focuses on Pilgrim

Saltmire, a young scholar researching what are known as visitor sightings. The mysterious visitors are described as tall, slim, white-clad figures, and their visits are heralded by bright lights in the sky. Pilgrim has various adventures before he meets Foeless Landwalker, a ranting preacher who claims to be in regular communication with the visitors. At this point, the narrative takes an audacious leap into full-blooded science fiction. The second section, set a few decades after First Contact between natives and visitors, takes up the story from the viewpoint of one of the visitors. The book is an absolute delight.

The Coral Bones

EJ Swift

UNSUNG STORIES, £9.99

The coral reefs are dying, and marine biologist Hana Ishikawa fears it is too late to halt this ecological catastrophe. Her story, set in the present, is one of three compelling narrative strands depicting connections between humans and the living seas off the coast of Australia. In 1839, 17-year-old Judith Holliman knows her fate



is to be sent away to make a good marriage in England, but first she persuades her ship-captain father to take her on a voyage of exploration to the islands of the reef. In the 22nd century, mass extinctions and climate change have forced governments to impose strict limits on human habitations. Telma Velasco is sent to investigate the reported sighting of a leafy seadragon in a remote bay where corals may be growing again. These three lives and times are woven together to create a thoughtful, immersive story that speaks to current fears and hopes for our world.

Expect Me Tomorrow

Christopher Priest

GOLLANCZ, £22

One of two chief protagonists is Adler Beck, a 19th-century Norwegian glaciologist, occasionally unnerved by hearing a strange voice in his head, who has been gathering evidence that convinces him the world is on the brink of drastic climate change. The other is Chad Ramsey, living on the heat-stricken, crumbling south-east coast of England in 2050. He has never heard of Beck, and has no idea that he is connected to the long-dead scientist. This is climate fiction with a twist; it features the brilliant concepts we can expect from the author of *The Prestige*, but there's also a warmth and emotional urgency that makes it one of his best for some time.

Nice: the grande dame of the Côte d'Azur

Fine dining, high culture, stunning beaches and exquisite views. A week will hardly feel long enough to live it up in the historic heart of the Riviera, says Emily Hill



We're a nation obsessed with weather, so it's no wonder our aristocrats have long wintered in Nice. Now recognised by Unesco as the winter resort town of the Riviera, its coastline averages 300 days of sun a year. Today, this Mediterranean city is just a four-minute train ride from the airport and your gateway to the famous crystal waters of the Côte d'Azur. Here's how to make the most of an off-season week in and around one of France's most glamorous cities ...

Day one: perambulate on promenade

For immediate de-stressing when you land, stay at the boutique hotel Sonder at Yelo Jean Médecin in Centre Ville. It's a few minutes' walk from the station and its chic, airy rooms come at bohemian prices. From there, take in the sea views Queen Victoria fell in love with walking the Promenade des Anglais, before heading to L'epicerie Georges for a bite and a glass of wine. With a belly full of fromage, wander towards the Cathédrale Sainte-Réparate – a baroque architectural gem honouring the city's patron saint – before getting lost in the labyrinthine lanes of Vieux Nice. The layout has barely changed since the 1700s, and is packed with boutiques and bars. Don't forget to Instagram from the top of Colline du Château.

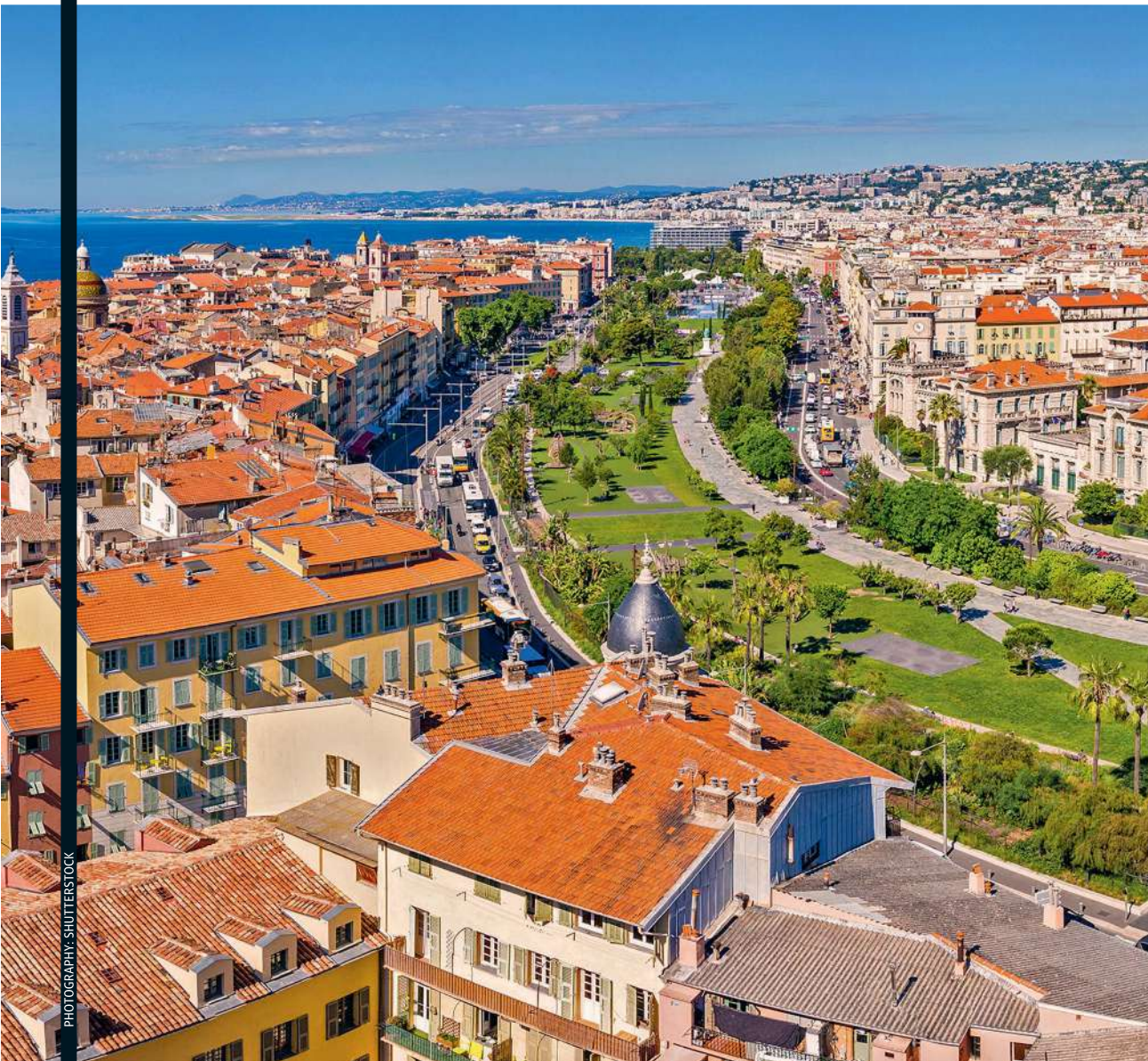
Day two: plunge into prehistory

Rise early to take in the sights, sounds and scents of the Cours Saleya; this massive market square teeming with food and flowers is ideal for sourcing culinary souvenirs. Then head to Nice's nicest beach, La Réserve, and drink cocktails at Le Plongeur – a gourmet restaurant overlooking the sea with three diving boards from which local daredevils used to plunge. This has been a must-book destination since *la belle époque*, when guests would drink tea here on a fishing boat secured to the rock, six metres above the waves. Finish the day by delving into the past, touring the Grotte du Lazaret, which was home to prehistoric humans.

Day three: sun, sea and sand

Since the sun is shining, you may want a sandy beach to soak it up on. Villefranche-sur-Mer is a 20-minute bus ride away – or a half-hour cycle along the Boulevard Carnot. The sand strip at Plage de la Marinière is quite narrow, so don't forget your flipflops. Check in for the night at the Hôtel La Fiancée du Pirate before spending the evening hanging out in the atmospheric old harbour, La Darse, eating, drinking and imagining what it would be like to marry a pirate.

Clockwise from top: Le Plongeur; Villefranche sur Mer; the Promenade des Anglais in Nice



Day four: dive into the deep blue

Travel a little further down the coast to the fishing village of Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat to spend the day scuba diving and snorkelling at the Cap Ferrat diving centre. Their experts can help you discover more than 20 beauty spots along the peninsula, where you can get acquainted with crystal-clear waters and seagrass meadows, as starfish, sea urchins, girelles, sea anemones, and other cnidarians swim alongside you. After a spot of lunch, immerse yourself in a completely different world of wonders at Baroness Ephrussi de Rothschild's priceless Renaissance-style villa and gardens, which is unrivalled on the Riviera for its sheer scale and opulence.

Day five: Michelin-starred meals and fairytale fragrances

The medieval hilltop village of Èze is one of the most beautiful places in the Mediterranean. Built 400 metres above sea level, it is most famous for its panoramic views. Walt Disney spent a significant amount of time here learning a thing or two about how to craft a fairytale while staying at the Château de la Chèvre d'Or. The Jardin Botanique d'Èze is a must-see for its collection of cacti and succulents, while the Fragonard perfume factory laboratory is a must-sniff for its heavenly scents. If you intend to treat yourself to a memory-making meal on your trip, Èze is the place to book in. The village is a fine-dining haven – home to the two-Michelin-starred La Chèvre d'Or and the stunning elevated terrace restaurant at Château Eza. The only hard choice will be deciding which to opt for.

Day six: hike the trails

If you're visiting during ski season, it's well worth driving north to appreciate the Alps in all their snowy glory. If not, head out of town and stop just before you reach Monaco at Cap-d'Ail. This famous hiking trail is modern for the Med, but full of flora and fauna from Mala beach in the west to Marquet beach on the east. Along the way there is a seemingly endless array of *belle époque* villas with exquisite gardens – Hollywood legend Greta Garbo lived here when she wanted to be alone, while Winston Churchill was honorary mayor and has an avenue named after him. Below, there are cliffs of volcanic rock and more sparkling blue waters.

Day seven: art of the Riviera

Any stay in Nice Côte d'Azur will seem too short if you're flying back to the pale, grey skies of old Blighty. To make the trip home as painless as possible, take the train back to Nice and spend your final 24 hours admiring the work of great artists inspired by the region. You'll find museums devoted to Matisse (in love with the "limpidity" of Nice), Chagall (who was obsessed with the shores of the Mediterranean) and Renoir (who spent his last, prolific 12 years here). Complete the holiday with a viewing of the Masséna Museum, the architectural jewel of the Promenade des Anglais, which evokes the whole history of the Riviera – and embodies why it is so difficult to leave.



Fantastic museums and galleries, such as the Matisse Museum (above), sit alongside the breathtaking natural beauty in Nice Côte d'Azur

'The medieval hilltop village of Èze is a fine-dining haven. The only hard choice is deciding where to go'



CATCH SOME AUTUMN SUN

Discover a new side to the south of France with an off-season trip to Nice Côte d'Azur. With EasyJet flights from various UK airports, it's never been easier to catch some autumn sun. Find out more at easyjet.com and explore Nice Côte d'Azur.com

PAID FOR BY



EXPLORE

NICE
CÔTE
D'AZUR

If looks could kill

Medusa has become a potent political meme – the default allegory for a hated woman in the public eye. *Natalie Haynes* shows how the original myth has been manipulated

Ancient Archetypes, Amber Heard, and How to Avoid Both” read a headline on a rightwing US website in May. It was illustrated with Caravaggio’s painting of Medusa, her hair a writhing mass of snakes, her eyes bulging, her mouth open in a silent scream. “Don’t look at her, Johnny! She may turn you to stone!” read the first line of the piece.

There is no more potent symbol of male fear of the female gaze than Medusa. She can destroy you with a single glance. For my generation, we knew this at a very early age, from the 1981 movie *Clash of the Titans*. Harry Hamlin, as the handsome young hero Perseus, has been sent on a quest to find the head of a gorgon. He hunts Medusa to a dark cave, and discovers that she is hunting him too: armed with a bow, she picks off his comrade with an arrow, and then petrifies him with her glowing eyes. Perseus has to approach her by looking at her reflection in his shield, and even once he has killed her, she is toxic. Her spilled blood is lethally corrosive. I love this film: it was my first introduction to Greek myth. But it cemented the idea of Medusa as predator in my mind for a long time. And, in recent years, the monstrous Medusa has become a default allegory for a hated woman in the public eye.

A 2016 cartoon of Benvenuto Cellini’s statue *Perseus With the Head of Medusa* became a hugely influential meme during the US presidential election. Hillary Clinton’s decapitated face replaced the gorgon head. The Cellini statue shows Perseus trampling on the torso of the woman he has beheaded. But, of course, she’s a monster, so we don’t have to worry about her feelings, or her body. It is a potent illustration of violent misogyny: even once he has killed this creature, his hatred is not quenched. He holds up her head as a trophy,

crushes her ruined body beneath his feet. He who fights monsters, said Nietzsche, should take care he doesn’t become one himself.

Ancient Greek and Roman sources tell a very different story about Medusa. She isn’t a monster, although we have come to think of her that way; she is the mortal sister of two immortal gorgons. The three live together, and are devoted to one another. Her mortality is described by the poet Hesiod as a wretched condition: her sisters know that she will die while they live on. Medusa is also a survivor of rape. The assault on her body is compounded by a curse from the goddess whose temple her rapist profanes. No one punishes the rapist god, of course, but Medusa is given snakes for hair.

I spent the long winter lockdown of 2021 writing a novel about Medusa. When I finished the first draft, in September last year, I cried for two days. It wasn’t just relief at finishing the book (though I had been ill, so that was part of it). I realised that these gorgons were the family I had made to keep me company when I missed my own. By submitting the manuscript, I was leaving them, or allowing them to leave me, these women who had looked after my mind while I was trying to repair my body.

This dual nature – defending and attacking – is the key to understanding Medusa as something more than a monster. When the god Asclepius learns the art of healing, he is able to save the dying and revive the dead. He has the power to achieve this, according to Pseudo-Apollodorus (an ancient mythographer), because he is given two drops of Medusa’s blood by the goddess Athene. The droplet from the left side of her body is deadly poison. The drop from the right side is salvation. Medusa is – and always has been – the monster who would save us.

My book *Stone Blind* is the story of Medusa that I wanted to tell. She’s not a monster but a monstered woman, an early example of the way in which



many societies punish women who have suffered physical and sexual harm. For a long time, I assumed it was simply misogyny that provoked this response: she was asking for it, she deserved it. As I get older, I wonder if it is a more complicated problem than that. The pain of seeing that a woman has been hurt – attacked by a police officer, beaten by her partner, raped by a stranger, a soldier, a boyfriend, a peacekeeper – is very hard to tolerate. And the statistics that accompany sexual assault are dizzyingly awful: 12 million women shared stories of abuse, assault and discrimination through #MeToo. More than a third of teenage girls in the UK say they have been sexually harassed at school. So now I wonder if we dehumanise women who talk about their pain

Medusa’s dual nature is the key to understanding her as something more than a monster

Medusa With the Head of Perseus (2008)
by Luciano Garbati

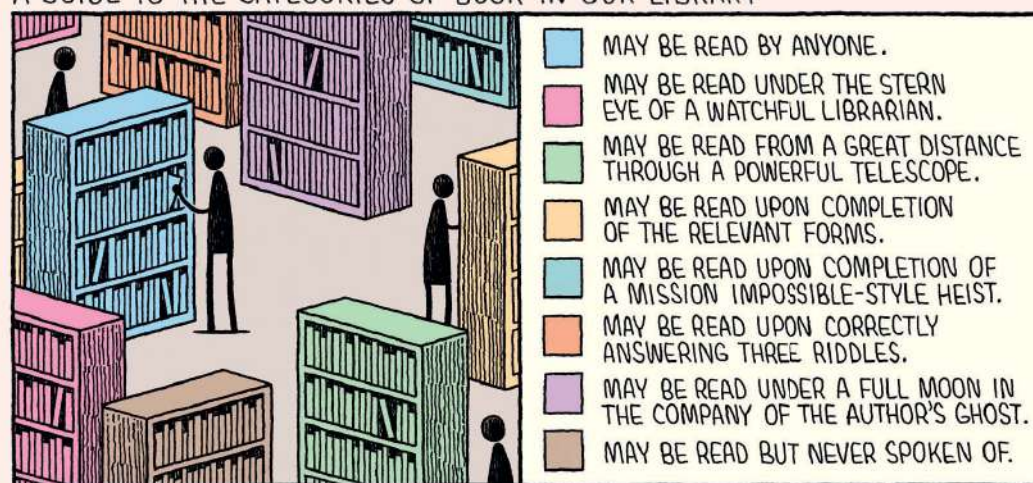
because otherwise their pain would become ours. How else do we look at a roomful of teenage girls and tell them we accept the statistics they’re living through?

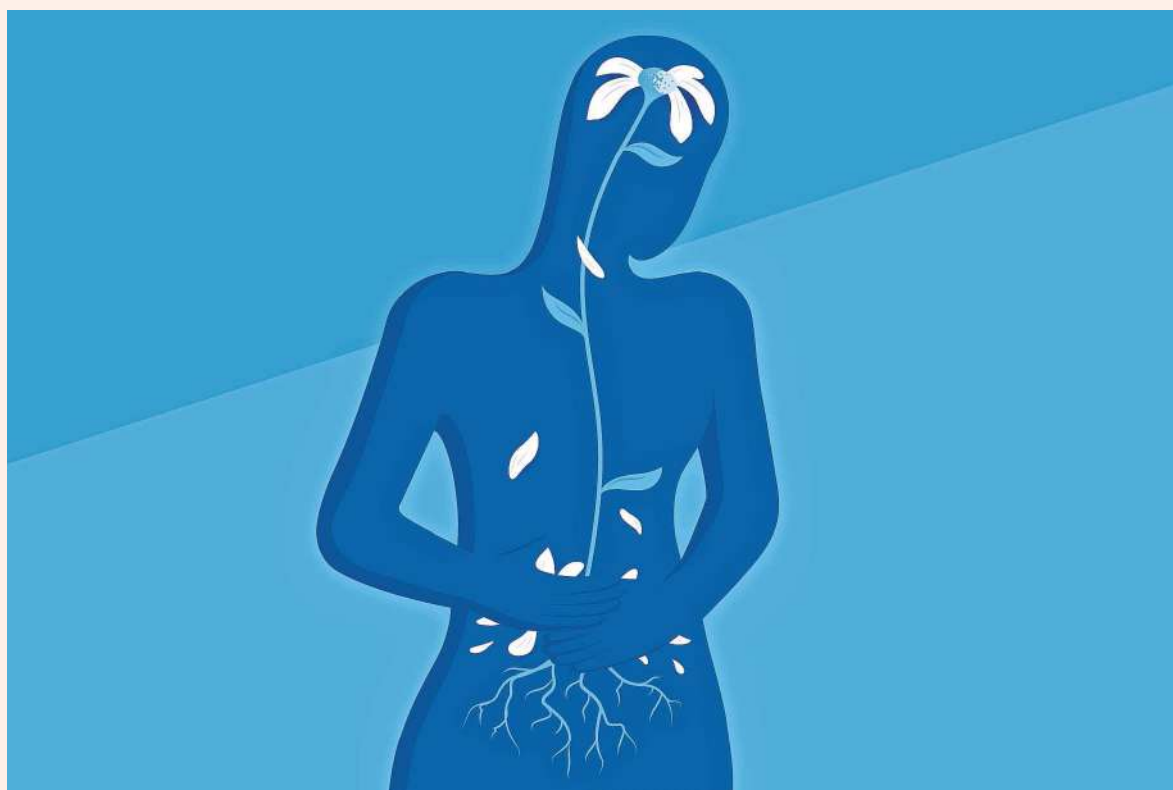
In 2018, we saw one example of Medusa being used to fight back against a narrative that literally silences women. At the time, Prof Christine Blasey Ford was giving evidence against supreme court justice nominee Brett Kavanaugh, who she claimed had sexually assaulted her many years before. He would go on to be appointed to the court. A meme circulated that showed a gender-switched reversal of another Perseus statue by Antonio Canova from the beginning of the 19th century. Canova’s statue shows Perseus in gleaming white marble, every inch the young hero, holding the head of Medusa. The 2018 meme showed Luciano Garbati’s reimagining of Canova’s statue, with Medusa naked, holding the severed head of Perseus. Some versions of the meme came with an accompanying text. “Be thankful we only want equality, and not payback.” The first time I saw this, I gasped. Then I wondered why I’d never gasped at the Canova statue.

A version of Garbati’s gender-switched statue now stands outside a courtroom in Manhattan. It may offer a more retributive version of justice than we would choose to see our legal system dispense, but it is no less important for that. Casual violence is done to women in art, in sculpture, in literature that we see all around us all the time. And we surely all need reminding that although this reflects normality for countless women, it isn’t normal, and we should keep noticing it. *Stone Blind* by Natalie Haynes is published by Mantle on Thursday.

Tom Gauld

A GUIDE TO THE CATEGORIES OF BOOK IN OUR LIBRARY





THE BIG IDEA

Why we shouldn't separate mental and physical health

The current false dichotomy holds back research and stigmatises patients, writes *Ed Bullmore*

A FEW MONTHS AGO, I was infected by coronavirus and my first symptoms were bodily. But as the sore throat and cough receded, I was left feeling gloomy, lethargic and brain-foggy for about a week. An infection of my body had morphed into a short-lived experience of depressive and cognitive symptoms – there was no clear-cut distinction between my physical and mental health.

My story won't be news to the millions of people worldwide who have experienced more severe or prolonged mental health outcomes of coronavirus infection. It adds nothing to the already weighty evidence for increased post-Covid rates of depression, anxiety or cognitive impairment. It isn't theoretically surprising, in light of the growing knowledge that inflammation of the body, triggered by autoimmune or infectious disease, can have effects on the brain that look and feel like symptoms of mental illness.

However, this seamless intersection of physical and mental health is almost perfectly misaligned with the mainstream way of dealing with sickness in body and mind as if they are completely independent of each other.

In practice, physical diseases are treated by physicians working for medical services, and mental illnesses are treated by psychiatrists or psychologists working for separately organised mental health services. These professional tribes follow divergent training and career paths: medics often specialise to focus exclusively on one bit of the body, while psychs treat mental illness without much consideration of the embodied brain that the mind depends on.

We live in a falsely divided world, which draws too

hard a line – or makes a false distinction – between physical and mental health. The line is not now as severely institutionalised as when “lunatics” were exiled to remote asylums. But the distinction remains deeply entrenched despite being disadvantageous to patients on both sides of the divide.

Why do we stick with such a fractured and ineffective system? I will focus on two arguments for the status quo: one from each side, from the tribes of medics and psychs.

For the medics, the problem is that we just don't know enough about the biological causes of mental illness for there to be a meaningful integration with the rest of medicine. Psychiatry is lagging behind scientifically more advanced specialities, such as oncology or immunology, and until it catches up in theory it can't be joined up in practice. To which I would say yes but no: yes, greater detail about biological mechanisms for mental symptoms will be fundamental to the fusion of mind and body medicine in future; but no, that is not a sufficient defence of the status quo, not least because it discounts how much progress has already been made in making

biomedical sense of illnesses such as schizophrenia.

For the psychs, the problem is fear of excessive reductionism: that the personal and social context of mental illness will be neglected in pursuit of an omnipotent molecule or other biological mechanism at the root of it all. That would indeed be a dead end, but it's not a likely destination.

We have known since Freud that childhood experience can have a powerful effect on adult mental health. There is now massive epidemiological evidence that social stress, broadly speaking, and early life adversity in particular, are robust predictors of both mental illness and physical disease. Only a biomedical zealot in denial would claim this doesn't matter. But the question remains: how does experience of poverty, neglect, abuse or trauma in the first years of life have such enduring effects on health many decades later?

Freud's answer was that traumatic memories are buried deep in the unconscious mind. A more up-to-date answer is that social stress can literally “get under the skin” by rewriting the script for activation of the genetic blueprint. Molecular modifications called epigenetic marks cause long-term changes in the brain and behaviour of young rats deprived of maternal affection or exposed to aggression. Similar mechanisms could biologically embed the negative impacts of early-life adversity in humans, exacerbating inflammation and steering brain development on to paths that lead to mental health problems in future.

Drilling down on the biological mechanisms doesn't mean that we must abandon or devalue what we know about the social factors that cause mental illness. Anxious anticipation of such a binary choice is itself a symptom of the divided way of thinking that we need to escape.

So, if we could free ourselves from this unjustified class distinction between mental and physical health, what changes might we hope to see in future?

For medics and psychs, there will be more educational and career paths that cut across specialisations. There will be new treatments to tackle the physical causes of mental illness, which are expected to be many and variable between patients, rather than trying to smother symptoms by “one size fits all” treatment regardless of cause. Knowing more about their physical roots, we should be much more successful at predicting and preventing mental health disorders.

For patients, the result will be better physical and mental health outcomes. There will be more integrated specialist physical and mental health services. There will be more opportunities for people with relevant lived experience to co-produce research investigating the links between physical and mental health. But the biggest impact of all could be on stigma. The sense of shame or guilt that people feel about being mentally ill is an added load, a meta-symptom, culturally imposed by the false dichotomy between physical and mental health. Without it, the stigma of mental illness should fade away, just as the stigma attached to epilepsy and tuberculosis has been diminished by an understanding of their physical causes.

Ultimately it is easier to imagine a better future for mental and physical health together than for either alone. *Ed Bullmore is professor of psychiatry at the University of Cambridge and author of The Inflamed Mind: A Radical New Approach to Depression (Short Books).*

Further reading *Three books for a deeper dive*

Inventing Ourselves
Sarah-Jayne Blakemore
BLACK SWAN,
£9.99



The Body Keeps the Score
Bessel van der Kolk
PENGUIN, £12.99



Illness as Metaphor
Susan Sontag
PENGUIN CLASSICS, £14





LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III
IN CONCERT
With **KATHERINE PRIDDY**

UK TOUR 2022
Wed 14 Sept **BRISTOL** St George's
Thu 15 Sept **BIRMINGHAM** Town Hall
Sat 17 Sept **MANCHESTER** RNCM Theatre
Sun 18 Sept **LONDON** Royal Festival Hall
BOOKINGSDIRECT.COM



RICHARD MARX
THE SONGWRITER TOUR
SAT 1 OCTOBER
MANCHESTER RNCM
MON 3, TUE 4 & THU 6 OCTOBER
UNION CHAPEL, LONDON
BOOKINGSDIRECT.COM
RICHARDMARX.COM



MARC CORN

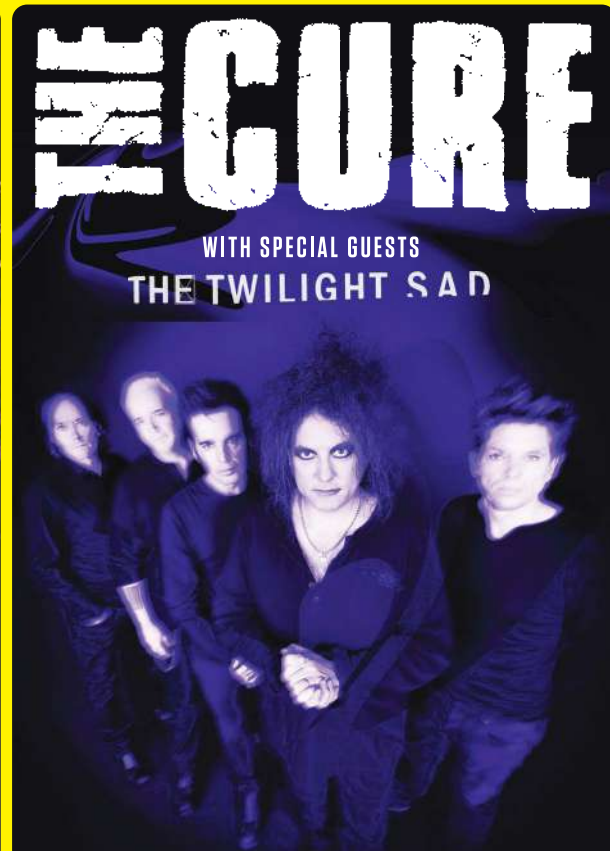
FRI 24 & SAT 25 MARCH 2023
UNION CHAPEL LONDON
BOOKINGSDIRECT.COM



AL STEWART
GREATEST HITS 2022
WITH HIS BAND
THE EMPTY POCKETS

SUN 16 OCT	MANCHESTER RNCM Theatre
MON 17 OCT	NORTHAMPTON Derngate
TUE 18 OCT	BIRMINGHAM Town Hall
20/21/22 OCT	LONDON Cadogan Hall
TUE 25 OCT	BEXHILL De La Warr Pavilion
WED 26 OCT	BRISTOL St George's
THU 27 OCT	GUILDFORD G Live
SUN 30 OCT	CARDIFF New Theatre
TUE 1 NOV	BOURNEMOUTH Pavilion Theatre
WED 2 NOV	CAMBRIDGE Corn Exchange
THU 3 NOV	BATH Forum

BOOKINGSDIRECT.COM
AlStewart.com /@officialAlStewart @AlStewartinfo



THE CURE
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
THE TWILIGHT SAD

SUN 4 DEC 2022 - GLASGOW OVO HYDRO
TUE 6 DEC 2022 - LEEDS FIRST DIRECT ARENA
WED 7 DEC 2022 - BIRMINGHAM UTILITA ARENA
SOLD OUT - CARDIFF MOTORPOINT ARENA
SOLD OUT - LONDON OVO ARENA WEMBLEY
MON 12 DEC 2022 - LONDON OVO ARENA WEMBLEY
EXTRA SHOW ADDED DUE TO PHENOMENAL DEMAND
TUE 13 DEC 2022 - LONDON OVO ARENA WEMBLEY

THECURE.COM BOOKINGSDIRECT.COM

Spacecraft



Double your useable space with our sofa beds

FUTON
C O M P A N Y

Experts in small space living
21 stores | 0345 609 4455
futoncompany.co.uk

LIFESTYLE



THE YOKE'S ON US

*When did the humble
egg become so fancy?*



ADVICE

**Help! My
friend is
always late
and flaky**

PAGE 77

STYLE

**Autumn's
hottest
new look?
It's a belter**

PAGE 81

TRAVEL

**10 fabulous
European
learning
holidays**

PAGE 84



They're cheap, nutritious and easy to cook. But as demand soars, are manufacturers turning eggs into luxury items?

Words: Richard Godwin
Photography: Tal Silverman
Set design: Ash Thomas and Dan Burwood

There are few things on Earth as perfect as an egg. As Vladimir Nabokov wrote in the single most appetising parenthesis in western literature, a soft-boiled egg with buttered toast is “(the most delicious meal known to man)”. With the cost of living crisis worsening, there are few cheaper sources of nutrition, too. The egg is egalitarian and utilitarian. To my mind, there is no reason for Deliveroo to exist when you can prepare a three-egg omelette in 30 seconds.

From a farmer's perspective, eggs are equally miraculous, since they arrive on the production line as neatly and uniformly as Model T Fords - which is far from the case with bacon, tomatoes or milk. “Really, you just need a room, a grader, some hens, and you're away,” says Paddy Bourns, an organic egg farmer at Cackleberry Farm in Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire. “You can sell them anywhere because they're ready-packed in their shells. You could drive down the road now, pick up some eggs, put them in a box and sell them out of your gate. There are not many products you can do that with.”

But here lies a source of contention. Bourns's CackleBean eggs, laid by rare-breed organic hens on his tiny solar-powered farm, are some of the most coveted in England. He prides himself on rearing the best eggs he possibly can, and they're the best I've ever tasted. They are also among the most expensive: about £3 for half a dozen in boutique stores such as Gail's Bakery and Selfridges food hall. Bourns is not inclined to sell them to supermarkets as he won't compromise his high welfare standards to meet the demand. “You cannot be high-end and be in a supermarket,” he says.

However, since all hen's eggs look more or less the same to the untrained eye, you could easily mistake one of his 50p organic eggs for, say, a Tesco own-brand 18p free-range egg or, indeed, an Asda 9p battery-farmed egg. Most consumers don't really look past the packaging. And increasingly, Bourns feels, the giants that dominate the poultry industry are taking advantage of this by selling us mass-

produced, factory-farmed eggs and marketing them as small, artisanal products.

“It happened to me yesterday,” he says. “I won't name the company but this was somewhere I always thought was all right: small company, little farm, one gate. Then the whole thing shatters. You realise they buy their eggs off other farms. The little farm's a front. There's Big Egg behind it.”

Big Egg is, indeed, big business. According to industry data, 42m British hens produced 11.3bn eggs in 2021, which adds up to about 30m eggs laid *each day*. Egg consumption is up 4% year on year and has been rising steadily through the 21st century. We ate 202 each in the UK in 2021, compared with 176 eggs each in 2004. Most of the growth has been in the free-range category, which now accounts for 63.7% of the market, according to Defra.

Among the criteria for British Lion “free-range” standard are that hens must have access to outdoor space, live in flocks no larger than 16,000 with no more than nine hens per square metre in their hen houses. Organic (which makes up 4% of the market) adds further requirements: no genetically modified feed, no antibiotics, flocks no larger than 3,000, more outdoor access, and no “beak trimming” - a mutilation designed to stop hens pecking each other, as they do when in stressful conditions. In caged systems, there are no limits on flock size.

The market leaders in the egg world are Noble Foods, which produces more than 60m eggs a week and distributes them under various brands, some organic (Purely Organic), some free-range (The Happy Egg Co) and some neither (Big & Fresh). Another big layer is Stonegate Farmers, which provides all of Waitrose's eggs and owns posh egg pioneer Clarence Court, a Wiltshire farm that pumps out hundreds of thousands of free-range eggs every day.

Lockdown has helped increase demand - more homebaking, more breakfasts at home - and so too has social media. On social media, egg-related hashtags (#yolkporn, #egg) comfortably beat those of its aspirational breakfast-mate the avocado. Celebrity chefs are developing their favourites: Cacklebean has been touted by Mary Berry and Tom Kerridge; Yotam Ottolenghi and Mark Hix have pushed Clarence Court. In all, the egg appears to be going through a similar rags-to-riches trajectory as kale. The reason the vitamin C- and K-rich brassica was so touted by cooks in the first place was that it was a cheap source of nutrition. However, it soon became shorthand for an upwardly aspirational lifestyle and a byword for foodie faddism. The Old Cotswold Legbar seems to be enjoying a similar Instagram moment.

Nevertheless, since eggs (even posh ones) are so cheap, consumption seems likely to rise with the cost of living crisis - Sainsbury's has already pledged to spend £500m keeping the costs of everyday staples such as eggs down. This is not necessarily a bad thing, says Jayne Buxton, author of *The Great Plant-Based Con*, which examines how food companies have manipulated concerns about animal welfare and the environment to push processed





food. “The interesting trend is that demand for eggs is going up regardless of the narrative that says we should all eat more plant-based foods,” she says. One conclusion she has come to from her research is that we should eat more of this whole food with its excellent nutrition-to-carbon ratio. “People are smarter than we think. And they’re more resistant to the dominant zeitgeist narrative. They know eggs provide high-quality protein.” Basically, no other food gives so much bang for its cluck.

The problem is, it is extremely difficult to produce 30m eggs a day and sell them to a public that expects eggs to be available at all times but is in denial about the often bleak realities of industrial farming - let alone the fine distinctions between free-range and organic. Which helps to explain why, in recent years, the egg aisle has become such a fiercely contested, semiotically rich design space.

“The idea of egg brands would have seemed ridiculous a few decades ago,” says Lori Meakin, co-founder of branding agency Joint. “Eggs were just eggs, a pure generic that gave rise to expressions such as ‘sure as eggs are eggs’”. But as demand soared and customers became more discerning, manufacturers attempted to distinguish themselves with claims about welfare, carbon footprint, provenance, quality and safety - plus aspirational shell colours and improbably amber yolks.

Now, there are eggs and there are Tesco Finest Bluebell Araucanas, which come in a pale blue box and a “striking pastel blue” shell. There are the aspirational ovoids pushed by Clarence Court, which treats proprietary hen breeds such as the Burford Brown as luxury marques (£4.30 for 10 in Sainsbury’s). The company has recently introduced such innovations as ready-to-eat quail eggs with truffle mayonnaise and seasonal pheasant eggs (“their shells are a sophisticated olive green and brown, reminiscent of Farrow & Ball paint colours,” says the marketing material). Then we have the Respectful brand (like Clarence Court, part of Stonegate), which focuses on its carbon credentials. The top UK brand is the Happy Egg Co, whose animal welfare selling point was rather undermined by a Peta investigation last year, which found routine beak-trimming - permissible among free-range birds in the UK guidelines - and cramped conditions.

But it’s a fact that most shoppers (in a rush, mindful of our ever-decreasing spending power) are more likely to be swayed by a word such as “happy” than a Peta investigation. “Once the proposition is

‘The idea of egg brands would have seemed ridiculous a few decades ago. Eggs were just eggs’

defined it's simply about communicating it clearly on packaging, through visuals, through messaging, materials and production techniques," says Vicky Bullen of branding agency Coley Porter Bell. "Respectful has a simple black line drawing on a box made of recycled materials - a minimalist approach that matches its proposition." Clarence Court has, by contrast, gone for a "posh aesthetic" legible in everything from the colours of its shells to the "tone of voice" of its marketing material.

When it comes to the more premium brands, one of the main points of differentiation is provenance, says Bullen. "People want to know where their food comes from - St Ewe's from Cornwall and Duncan's Eggs from Scotland both do this. And the more specific the location - Daylesford and Stonegate for example - the more premium the brands feel."

Quality is another marker. "We have learned to associate certain signs and symbols with quality. Crowns and crests appear on Clarence Court and Stonegate, while fine script - used by Daylesford - is another route to quality. God really is in the detail."

But all this emphasis on design rather miffs Bourns, as becomes clear when I visit his farm. In normal circumstances, his hens would all be roaming around outside. The avian flu epidemic means they're confined to their barns - but they seem happy and healthy enough, rootling around on the straw, feathers notably shiny. In the sorting area by the coop, there is a button to make a conveyor belt deliver white, blue, pink and brown eggs into a tray, straight from the roosts.

Contrary to popular belief, the shell colour makes zero difference to taste - different breeds simply produce different-coloured eggs. "We mix all up the colours now," Bourns says. "We find customers like that." The amberiness of the yolk is similarly purely a matter of aesthetics. It can be adjusted simply by feeding the hen orange- and yellow-coloured foods. (Bourns has his own proprietary feed made to a secret recipe; corn and marigold are common.) As for the packaging? It's a cardboard box and Bourns



The colour of the yolk is a matter of aesthetics, and is simply adjusted in the hens' feed

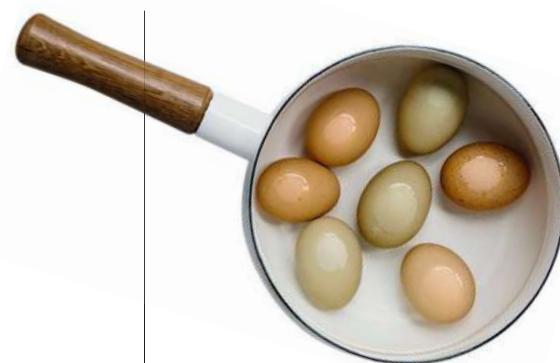
designed it himself. In the packing room, his wife Steph is folding 2D templates into 3D six-packs with practised fluency.

"We produce our eggs this way because it's what we believe in," Bourns says. "We never wanted to be some bougie egg company. We like high welfare. We like regenerative agriculture. We haven't got the heart to kill cockerels so we keep them alive. We do it because we wanted to do things that way. But then bigger companies latch on to it. They go: that's a good marketing tool."

While we are talking, Bourns's phone keeps ringing with suppliers whom he has to let down as he never has enough eggs to meet demand. "It makes me look like I can't manage my business. But actually I can. I'm producing every egg to the same standard. I could go now and buy eggs from another farmer, with his stamp but with my brand and no one would even think about it. But it's wrong." There was a time, he points out, before hens' egg-laying capabilities had been optimised by selective breeding, electric lighting and other modern farming methods, when fresh eggs were a seasonal treat. Laying season started around Easter, and pickled eggs had to suffice from late autumn. "That's how it was. We've completely forgotten about it. In a commodity market, people can't understand why there are no eggs."

Bourns emphasises that he has no problem with the industry as a whole, even at the intensive end. His concern is that small farmers such as him who have to make specialist, artisanal products to survive will end up being elbowed out by larger companies with bigger marketing budgets and fewer scruples about keeping 30,000 hens to a shed. His advice is to ignore all the words, all the typography, all the Farrow & Ball colours on the packaging. "See a box of eggs? There's a number on it. Go on Google Earth, get the address, and have a look for yourself. See if the farm's small or big. You can't hide any more, can you?"

It's understandable that many of us question whether paying £3 for six eggs when you can buy six for £1.50. But as alarming as the price rises at the supermarket are, it's worth stressing that in the UK almost all of our food is historically cheap - and even the most expensive organic egg is a fraction of the price of beef, chicken, fish, cheese, tofu, nuts, or just about any other protein you can name. At just over 50p, the most delicious meal known to man seems, to me, the definition of affordable luxury.



Felicity Cloake's egg taste test
I boiled all the eggs for 7 minutes 15 seconds - for a set white and a fudgy but not quite hard yolk - then chilled them in cold water.

Waitrose Essential white, £1 for six
The glamorous interloper; a pure white egg, just like the ones on US cooking shows. Even though I know full well that the shade of a shell is determined by the breed that laid it, the difference is still mildly exciting. The white feels very compact and tight (possibly because it's the smallest egg in the test), the yolk is deeply yellow (this is usually down to the hen's diet) and the taste? You guessed it - like an egg.

Tesco Finest, £2
This may be the eggier egg I've seen, with an even, pale terracotta shell that reminds me of the rubber egg we once bought from a joke shop to fool my mum (simpler times). Inside, it has a firm, opaque white and an ordinary-looking apricot yolk - but, to be fair, a lovely rich flavour. (After thinking hard for several minutes, I realise it's hard to describe the flavour of an egg. They taste of eggs, simple as that.)

Duchy Organic free range, £2.15
No, hang on, this Waitrose specimen is the eggier-looking: a slightly smaller body double of no 2. Same colour, and however hard I try to detect a herbaceous, nutty or corny note ... the same flavour: delicious, egg.

Clarence Court Burford Brown, £2.12
This egg raises the bar with a fetching sprinkle of freckles - it reminds me a bit of a Mini Egg, which is a good thing. Inside, it has a flaming red yolk, which looks amazing (and would kill it on Instagram) and tastes great, almost creamy. Much like the first one, in fact.

Old Cotswold Legbar, £2.60
If Farrow & Ball did eggs, they'd probably be this delicate blue, which looks very pretty against your Italian marble worktop ... even if these pricier Clarence Court offerings are the same as any other egg inside. That said, the vivid turmeric-yellow yolks would make very tempting scrambled eggs ... and that's the point surely. If your egg looks unusually good, you'll almost certainly find it tastes better, too. Even if it actually tastes just like all the rest.

My friend has a bad case of tomato envy. I feel so proud



Tim Dowling
On modern life

It is early in the morning, and I am waiting to be picked up to play at the last of the summer festivals. Through the window I see my bandmate James's car pull up. By the time he's completed a three-point turn I am outside on the step, banjo in hand.

"I just saw your enemy, the squirrel," he says.

"Where?" I say.

"He was under your car, eating one of your tomatoes," he says. "I almost got a picture on my phone, but he buggered off."

I look under the car, where the bottom half of a large tomato lies on its side, surrounded by tiny chewed and spat-out bits. The squirrel doesn't even really eat the tomatoes; he just vandalises them.

"I hate that guy," I say, climbing into the passenger seat.

"I know," James says. "But your tomatoes are looking especially good."

"Yeah," I say. The impressive harvest is, of course, an additional burden. If failure feels like a hobby, success feels like a full-time job. Last year I lost my entire tomato crop to blight, which was heartbreaking, but also a little emancipating.

While I am away my wife starts posting on a WhatsApp group comprised of people we used to go on walks with during lockdown. She is agitating in support of a local walk the next day, followed by lunch somewhere. I watch on my phone as she loses control of the discussion.

"I could see things weren't going your way," I say when I call her that evening after the gig.

"Yes," she says. "I played my hand badly."

"So now there is no walk," I say.

"No," she says. "It's just me making lunch for everyone."

"I'll probably be back for that," I say.

"Great," she says.

"I mean, not in time to help," I say.

When I do arrive home late the next morning, I see telltale red flecks stretching from the gate to the corner, where the remains of a tomato of the plum variety have been squashed flat by a passing car. I find my wife in the kitchen, slicing tomatoes.

"How's it going?" I say.

"I'm making a tomato salad, then a different tomato salad," she says.

"Can I help?" I say.

"Have you got any more tomatoes?" she says.

"Yeah, shitloads," I say.

I go out and pick another armful, and then retire to my hammock, exhausted by my early start. When the first guests arrive, my friend Alex finds me still lying there. I open one eye.

"Your tomatoes are amazing!" he says, eating one. "What's your secret?"

"Global warming," I say.

"You've clearly got specialist skills," he says.

"Just punishing heat," I say. "I've got aubergines growing over there."

"Fuck off," he says.

They imagine I roll out of bed and pick ripe tomatoes for breakfast – not me chasing the squirrel with a rake

"I'll show you," I say.

This is what it's all about, I think, what all the effort boils down to: one fine day in late summer when people come round and are so impressed by your produce that they curse you for your success. They imagine you rolling out of bed and collecting a few ripe tomatoes for breakfast every morning. They don't think about you chasing a squirrel down the street with a rake.

I show Alex the aubergines: a couple of yellowing plants that were reduced in the supermarket which grew strong and produced fat, marbled fruits thanks to a long, freakish spell of decidedly Neapolitan weather. It's sort of ominous when you think about it, but today it's about achieving what I now know is my life's goal: attracting the fleeting envy of others.

Later, when everyone is gone and I am standing in the rosy evening light surrounded by deep red tomatoes, I think about how brief this glorious moment will end up being. In a matter of weeks the weather will cool to the point where my tomatoes stop ripening. Others will split and rot before I manage to pick them. At some point in October, I will buy a tomato from a shop, and feel terrible.

I am reminded of that town in Spain where, in late August, the citizens throw tomatoes at each other, until the pulp is piled high in the streets, and fire hoses are brought in to clear the debris. Maybe, I think, in celebration of this fleeting interval of plenty, I should allow my enemy the squirrel to drag a percentage of my crop into the road to be run over, just because.

Then I think: not on my watch, you bastard.

Edith Pritchett On millennial life

HIGHLY TARGETED ADS

The specificity of the ads I see suggests that my apps are sharing my data

- Ad I saw after I made a Spotify playlist called 'Angry crying' (featuring Alanis Morissette)
- Ad I saw after I spent 7 hours inside playing Kitten Escape
- Ad I saw after I bought an acid wash waistcoat on Depop
- Ad I saw after I deleted and re-downloaded Tinder nine times in a month

DON'T LET YOUR NOISE BECOME A NUISANCE
SOUNDPROOF YOUR HOME

NO SUNLIGHT? NO PROBLEM!
VITAMIN D
"Taking this pill was easier than standing up and opening my blinds"

MIRRORS
25% OFF!
Why not CHECK how you LOOK BEFORE people SEE YOU!

2FOR1 2FOR1 2FOR1 2FOR1 2FOR1
TIME TO JUST DO IT YOURSELF
EDITH @edithcartoonist
OR1 2FOR1 2FOR1 2FOR1 2FOR1

You be the judge

Do I have to tell my girlfriend every detail about my friend's stag do?

Interviews: Georgina Lawton



The prosecution

Luke

I am not going to behave like a teenager on this holiday. Raye should have more trust in me

My partner Raye is a bit iffy about me going on an upcoming boys' holiday to Ibiza. It's a stag do and she's worried I'll go off the rails.

I've been on stags with the guys before and they do get a bit wild. Last year, in Greece, one friend ended up in hospital after he drunkenly climbed up a lamp-post and fell off.

Now Raye is being a bit controlling. I'm surprised, as we're generally really open with each other. She's never been suspicious about my holidays before: she's not the type. On this trip I'm the best man. Raye thinks I'm going to be chief mischief-maker but it's actually the opposite. I'll be busy arranging things so won't be as free as the others.

She has recently demanded to know all the details for this trip. She said: "It's a stag do - I know how things can get out of hand." She wants to know where I'm staying, what activities I've planned. She also wants regular calls.

I said to Raye: "I'll be sober to keep everyone in check. Ibiza won't even be fun for me." But she's still anxious. We've been together since we were 16, now we're almost 30. We've lived together for eight years and things are really good.

I think Raye's nerves might come from the time when, on a holiday to Ibiza with the lads shortly after she and I got together, I kissed another girl. I was drunk. I came back and told her immediately, as I felt awful. In my defence, I was very young and stupid, but I shouldn't have done it.

We nearly broke up, but Raye forgave me. It was a one-off. I've been away with the same boys several times since, but never back to Ibiza. Maybe Raye thinks I'm returning to the scene of the crime. But I want to marry her; nothing in me wants to cheat again.

I think deep down she knows this. Trust hasn't been an issue since that one silly mistake, but suddenly it's a problem. Raye needs to relax and remember where we are in our relationship. I'd never do anything to jeopardise what we have. Just because I'm going on a stag do to Ibiza, doesn't mean I'm going to revert back to the immature teenager I once was.

The defence
Raye
Luke can be quite easily swayed, so I want to know more about his holiday plans. It's only fair

Luke and I usually have a great relationship. I don't have a problem with him going away - it's just this particular group of lads on stag-dos.

Last time, when Luke's friend ended up in hospital in Greece, I called him to see what was going on and he was so drunk with his friends in A&E. I thought: "Oh my God, this is the state you get yourselves into when the girlfriends aren't around." It was funny but also concerning.

I'm sounding like a boring Becky, but I do think these lads are a bit of a liability when they are together. Our friend group is quite tight - there are about six couples. When the boys are away, the girls gossip about what they're up to on WhatsApp. We're like: "Have you spoken to them today?" or "Did you see that Instagram story?" Only because we know what they're like. I don't think anyone's cheated in recent years, but you never know.

When Luke and I were 18 years old, he came back from a trip to Ibiza and told me he'd kissed someone when he was drunk on a night out. We broke up for a few months, but I took him back because I love him.

I accept that he's changed since then - it was more than 10 years ago now - but part of me does worry now that he's going back to Ibiza. I usually don't have a problem with his weekends away, but this is different.

Luke is the best man so he's going to feel pressure to plan some wild activities. He can be easily swayed at times and will want to impress the others. Of course I haven't said he can't go, but I have asked for a bit more detail about his plans. He says I'm being excessive, but it's only fair.

I trust him, but I want to know where he and his friends are staying and if they're going to strip clubs. I won't ban him from going or try to dictate his schedule but I want to know what he's doing. It will make me feel more secure. If Luke doesn't want to tell me anything, I'll probably get in a bit of a huff. He says I'm overreacting, but he needs to cut me some slack. Any partner who has once been cheated on would react the same way as me.

The jury
of Guardian readers

Should Raye back off on the stag do scrutiny?

Raye is not guilty. Luke acknowledges that several elements of the stag do might cause her some unease. Given that one of these factors is his previous indiscretion (albeit a long time ago) he could be a bit more understanding of her anxieties.
Mark, 39


Raye is being overly paranoid - Luke's drunken kiss from 12 years ago is a weak justification for her suspicious attitude. If she truly forgave him, why is the same distrust creeping in now? I suggest Raye takes a breather and trusts that Luke can be trusted to have fun.
Jess, 25

I can understand Luke's need to spend time with his friends, even though they sometimes act like teenagers, but I also share Raye's concerns. Raye has not vetoed Luke's participation on the stag - she has asked to be informed of the planned activities. That is not unreasonable.
David, 75

Raye seems convinced that something very bad will happen. But Luke and his friends are adults and responsible for their own mishaps. Demanding check-up calls risks eroding trust rather than building it.
Katie, 31

Precedent is playing out before Luke and he should compromise to make Raye feel less (justifiably) anxious about this trip. He also shouldn't claim that he will stay completely sober - being open and honest, which is what Raye needs, will help both parties.
Tom, 30

THE VERDICT	
Guilty Raye should back off	2
Not guilty Raye is being reasonable	3



You've heard the cases, now you decide ...
Scan to vote on this week's dispute, share your own, or be one of the jury

What can I do about my close friend who's always late and flaky?



Ask Annalisa Barbieri

I desperately need help with a very dear friend of mine, who is always late and hard to pin down.

We've been friends for more than 20 years. She is kind and funny. In some ways she is the friend with whom I feel I can be most myself. We don't live far from each other, but trying to meet up is hell.

She is vague and flaky with making plans. She is perpetually late. Every time we suggest a time to meet, she asks to meet later, then still turns up late, with no apology.

She sometimes messages me and suggests things, but rarely makes the arrangements. I'm starting to loathe the vague texts and waiting for her to reply or show up. I feel the frustration and resentment in me growing.

I wonder if she just doesn't care about meeting up as much as I do and if I should just take the hint. But when we do meet, we have a great time.

She has a number of chronic health conditions, and has suffered from depression. I try to be accommodating - travelling to her, for example - and understanding if she isn't feeling well.

I don't feel I can say, "This has been really annoying me for years. Can you make more effort?" I don't know how to raise this without being rude.

I understand the fatigue you feel. When one person in the friendship is so much more proactive it can make you wonder if it's just your energy that keeps the friendship going, and what would happen if you stopped.

But what I've learnt is some people are just crap at arrangements and fear rejection, so don't suggest things (this is more common than you may think).

I asked psychoanalytic psychotherapist Poul Rohleder why someone may be consistently late. "It could be about not wanting to be there [for whatever reason], that something is being avoided, or it could be an underlying anxiety and being late is about shortening the time. It could be a passive-aggressive act, or that the person being late doesn't think they're worthy of the other person's time."

There's a tendency to think that the person being late is the one in control, but actually I think people who are more secure and confident aren't generally late, because they value their own time, and thus other people's. Your friend has an added layer of health issues, so we wondered how much that impacted.

"What I'm really interested in," said Dr Rohleder, "is why you can't talk to her about it. You should be able to confront someone in a good friendship, but if something else is going on, addressing the lateness could be opening a Pandora's box. Has something happened in your friendship that's difficult to talk about?"

Talking to her and asking her point of view - so it's not a damnation of her but an enquiry - might give you really useful intel. How differently would you feel if you found out, for example, that she was trying the best she could?

Until you feel able to do that, here are some practical ideas: why not just ring her for a chat instead of making an appointment to chat? Be more decisive and say, "Shall I come round on Thursday? Let me know by Tuesday, night." And if you've arranged to meet somewhere, say something like, "I'll wait X minutes for you, but then I'll have to go" or something like that, so you feel less buffeted about by her.

Friendships are rarely symmetrical, with one person often being better at one thing than another. You say she is the person you can be most yourself with: that's worth a discussion.

If you would like advice on a family matter, email ask.annalisa@theguardian.com. See gu.com/letters-terms for terms and conditions

Health and Wellbeing *checklist* ✓

Your body is precious and it pays to look after yourself.
Here are a variety of ideas to be – and stay – healthy

Read more online! Visit checklists.co.uk and follow [@checklistsocial](https://www.facebook.com/checklistsocial)



Every man deserves comfort

It's a new ball game – traditional boxer trunks are not designed to keep your equipment sufficiently in place. Comfyballs wanted to change that as every man, of every age, deserves comfort, so they developed what they believe are the most comfortable boxers ever made.

Comfyballs have worked hard and long to find the perfect cut. Comfyballs boxers are tailored using flat-lock seams and superior fabrics for the ultimate comfort and breathability. All boxers incorporate PackageFront®, a unique design that lifts and supports without the squeeze. The PackageFront® design reduces heat transfer by lifting your equipment away from the thigh.

Material matters. The super soft Oeko-Tex Standard 100 certified fabrics provide superior comfort and breathability, making them

antichafing and superfast drying. Whether you're into extreme sports or simply chilling on the couch, Comfyballs have you covered.

You wouldn't think there'd be a lot to learn about underwear – wear it, change it, wash it, repeat – but there's actually more to it than most men think, so why not breathe new life into your top drawer? You'll feel particularly comfortable knowing that all Comfyballs products are climate neutral. This is something the company have worked towards for a long time and are excited to now be partnering with ClimatePartner to offset their carbon emissions.

Visit comfyballs.co.uk to shop the range or contact info@comfyballs.co.uk for more info. Apply code **HEALTH20** at checkout for a 20% discount*.

*Discount ends 30 September 2022 and does not apply to products on offer.

Suffering with dry mouth?

Are you struggling to get a good night's sleep due to dry mouth? Do you find yourself constantly sipping water? If so, you are not alone – one in four adults is affected by dry mouth¹. Oralieve can help.

Dry mouth can have a debilitating effect on your ability to eat, speak and swallow. It can also have a significant impact on your oral health as well as your physical and psychological well-being. Many people try drinking more water, sucking on sweets, or chewing gum to help provide relief, only to find that it may not help.

Free from strong flavours, alcohol and SLS, Oralieve products help maintain oral health



and improve comfort for people who may be suffering with dry mouth.

The natural enzyme system found in all Oralieve products is designed to help supplement natural saliva to help keep your mouth healthy and comfortable.

Oralieve®
DRY MOUTH RELIEF

Don't let dry mouth keep you from smiling anymore. Get in touch with the team today at hello@oralieve.co.uk or give them a call, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5:30pm on 01582 439122. Use code **CHECKLIST20** at oralieve.co.uk to receive 20% off* any item.

*Discount code not valid on multi packs or starter kits. One code per customer. 1. Prevalence of perceived symptoms of dry mouth in an adult Swedish population--relation to age, sex and pharmacotherapy, by T. Nederfors et al.

You're amazing



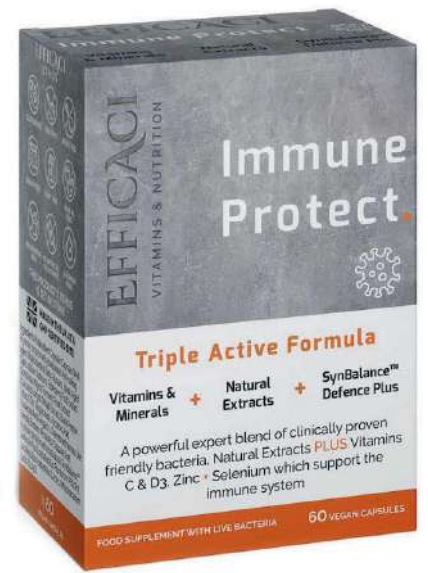
You're amazing and so is your immune system, and did you know that up to 80% of the immune system is in the gut*?

It's vital, especially as autumn and winter are rapidly approaching, that people do whatever they can to strengthen their immunity.

Immune Protect by Efficaci™ has been expertly designed using natural active ingredients, including vitamins C and D along with turmeric, that can contribute to normal functioning of the immune system. It also contains beta glucans and black pepper extract, and is one of the first products to effectively combine clinically proven friendly bacteria and essential nutrients in one convenient and effective pack. It is designed to help support your natural defences all year round.

One happy customer, Anne from Glasgow, said: "I've been using Immune Protect for over a month and I felt better from day one. I have much more energy, feel so much better and I love that it's only two capsules per day instead of the many tablets I was taking before. Thanks for giving me my life back".

At Efficaci, they want to look after people, pets and the planet. This means they have committed to only launching the most



efficacious products, backed by solid scientific research using patented raw materials whilst keeping an eye on their carbon footprint and supporting the use of sustainable packaging.

EFFICACI
VITAMINS & NUTRITION

Scan the QR code and use code **HIMP2022** at checkout for a buy three get one free special offer and protect yourself today at efficaci.co.uk

*The Interplay between the Gut Microbiome and the Immune System in the Context of Infectious Diseases throughout Life and the Role of Nutrition in Optimizing Treatment Strategies, by Selma P. Wiertsema et al.



Your chance to meet the stars of British horseracing

National Racehorse Week takes place from 10 to 18 September across Britain, where more than 150 venues including training yards, studs and aftercare centres will open their doors to the public. The open days are mostly free to attend and people of all ages are welcome, offering a fantastic family day out in the countryside.

The events showcase a range of activities, which varies from yard to yard, offering the chance to meet racehorses in training, as well as the much-loved stable stars who have retired. The trainers and their team will host a guided tour of their facilities, offering the chance to see horses exercise on the gallops, being cared for by staff and see demonstrations from farriers and physios.



National Racehorse Week
10th-18th September

Book your place using the postcode search via nationalracehorseweek.uk

Portion control made easy



The Diet Plate® has survived the test of time, at 22 years old it continues to perform well. It helps people

to lose weight and keep diabetes under control, the peer reviewed clinical study* showed that you are six times more likely to lose weight and three times more likely to control blood sugars.

The accuracy of the food group sections depicted on the Diet Plate ensure that you receive a balanced diet, with the calorie deficit needed to lose up to 1kg a week. Just use your eyes to make sure that the servings do not spill over the lines, see the 24-page

Visit thedietplate.com or call 0800 644 0166.

*Portion Control Plate for Weight Loss in Obese Patients With Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: A Controlled Clinical Trial, by Sue D. Pedersen, MD, FRCP et al.



booklet for guidance. Consistency is key, you can eat what you love, nothing is off the menu. Designed for the whole family, just choose which is right for you.

Diet Plate is made from fine English earthenware, it is dishwasher and microwave safe and currently on sale with a 20% discount until the end of September.



Planet-sustaining, money-saving,



Try risk free
for 60 days at
modibodi.co.uk



life-changing apparel.

modibodi®

reusable period underwear



The magic is yours at *Walt Disney* World Resort

Get up to \$1200 Disney Dining and Merchandise Credit per room, 14 Disney Park days for the price of 7 and \$100 Disney Spending Money with selected 2023 holidays.*



WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT | FLORIDA

Buckle up: autumn's new look is the no- frills belt



Jess Cartner-Morley
On trends

September is the January of fashion and therefore the best time to turn over a new leaf, wardrobe-wise. And this autumn's new look is a belter.

Sorry, couldn't resist. This season's new look - and by new look I mean an actual real-world vibe shift that will catch your eye because well-dressed people are wearing it and wearing it well, and sooner or later one of those people will walk past you in the street or sit opposite you in the office - is the return of the belt.

My friends, it is time to pack away your just-off-to-churn-the-butter summer dresses. Time to start wearing trousers with belt loops, and with a belt. Not a corset belt or a ribbon belt or anything fancy, just an ordinary belt, with a buckle, the kind you've got already. This is one of those new looks that isn't immediately obvious as being a major new fashion moment, because

it is really quite normal-looking. Which is brilliant, because it makes it easy to wear, cheap to shop from within your own wardrobe, and satisfying to nail because it feels a little bit in-the-know.

This is how it works. Say you are doing jeans-with-a-going-out-top. Instead of wearing low-rise jeans with a silky T-shirt number that grazes the top of your jeans pockets, you wear a tank top or a ribbed cardigan tucked into jeans that come up to your waist, and then you add a belt. Or, if you are wearing a shirt and trousers, instead of French-tucking the front part of the shirt into your waistband, and faffing about in front of the mirror getting the rest of the shirt to hang in an effortless yet flattering line, you just tuck the shirt in, and then belt it.

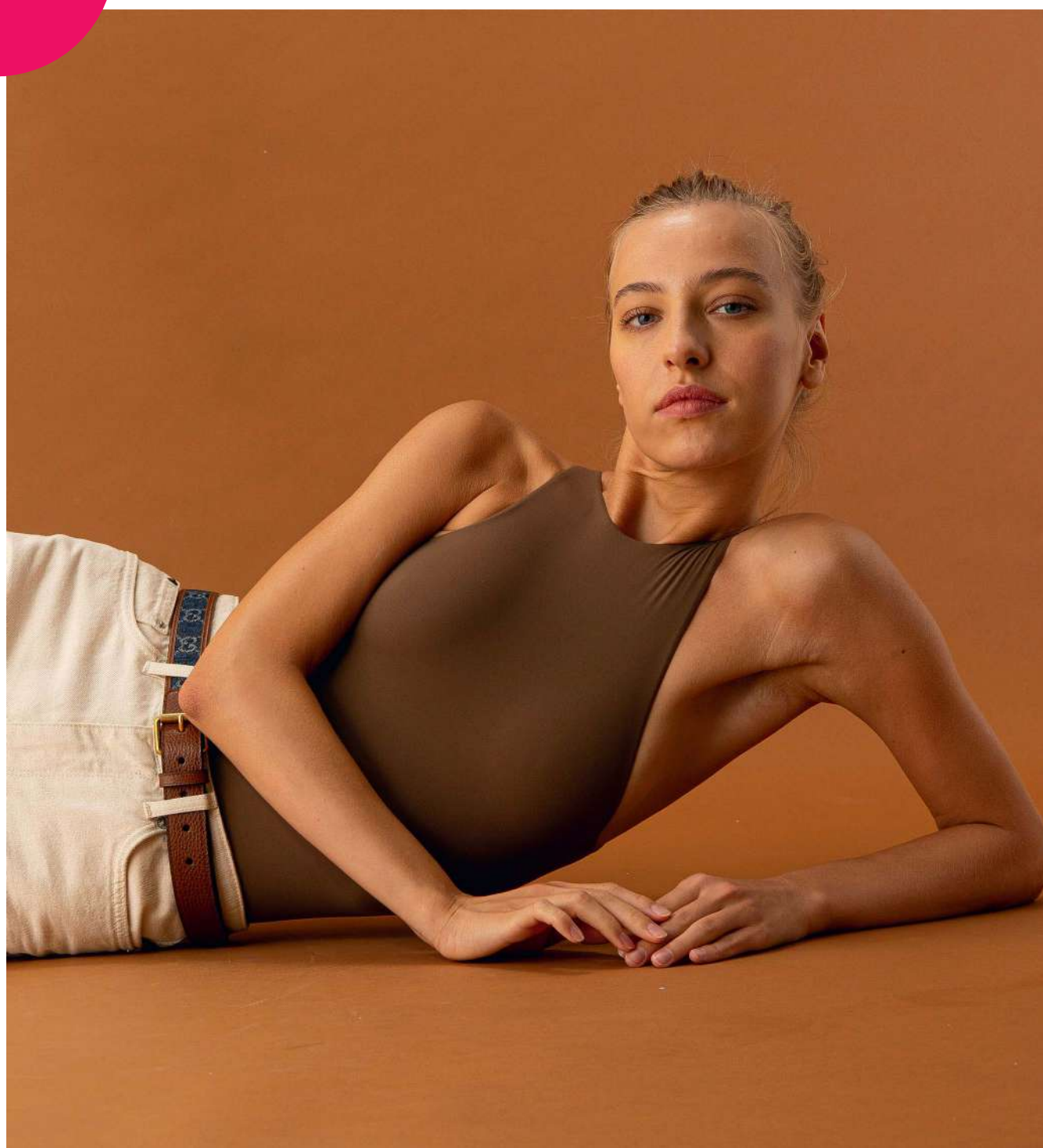
In other words, the belt is the new scrunchie: the slightly retro, below-the-radar accessory which makes you look a little bit fashion in a pleasing sort of a way.

It is not a coincidence that the purpose of a belt, as well as holding your trousers up, is to give you a waist, visually speaking. Come to think of it, scratch the new-scrunchie analogy. The belt is more like the new Wonderbra, now that abs are the new boobs and a snatched waist is sexier than fulsome cleavage. Contouring is king, from top to toe. The same makeup counters that used to sell blusher to give your cheeks a rosy glow and concealer to cover the dark circles under your eyes now sell contouring palettes with deep bronzer to slim your cheeks and highlighter to narrow your nose. Lingerie, which used to be a world of lace and frills, is now all about high-end chic shapewear to knead flesh into the desired hourglass.

I have a theory about this. It seems to me that the rise of contouring, in makeup and in underwear, is how beauty and style have metabolised the rise of plastic surgery. Turn on the television, flip through a magazine or

scroll your social media feeds and you will see slimmed-down noses, bee-stung upper lips, cushiony plumped cheekbones and surgically boosted bottoms. Much of the time, we don't realise that we are looking at surgically enhanced beauty, but that doesn't matter: our eyes adjust nonetheless, and exaggerated contours become the benchmark we are aiming for.

This is pretty weird, when you come to think about it, and possibly a bit depressing, but hey, don't shoot the messenger. And anyway, it's not like TikTok invented trying to make your waist look smaller, since I'm pretty sure whalebone corsets were around before the internet. By bringing back the common-or-garden belt as an outfit cincher, this season has landed on an easy, cheap, painless way to sate that craving. Sometimes the old ways are the best ways. Is the belt the new scrunchie? Or is it the new Wonderbra? Either way, it's the new look.



pooky

Capulet

Radiant, sparky, a real turn-on
Seeks reading room for
star-crossed romance...



Find the light of your life, for less, at pooky.com

The hot summer has taken its toll. Luckily, some plants know how to stand their ground



Alys Fowler On gardens

My garden in Birmingham started its long unravelling early this year. The heatwave and lack of rain meant autumn was felt in early August. It was my last month in this garden and all those muted yellows and browns, the straw-blond stems and bleached seedheads seems to be saying, “If you’re off, so are we.” I longed for summer to linger a bit longer so I had more time for goodbyes. But isn’t that always the way?

The best of these plants reminded me that there are some that are very good at endings: they do so with conviction and passion rather than just slinking away quietly. There are plants that don’t just have good colours in their retreat, but stand strong with it too. These plants are also good for wildlife – those that can stand tall over winter make a good refuge for hibernating creatures, and often provide seedheads that will feed birds and small mammals into winter.



I have a very good form of the umbel *Dystaenia takesimana* from Crûg Farm Plants, collected in South Korea. It is a handsome thing that reaches 2m even with the competition and shade of my quince tree. The umbels are plate-sized and spent all summer crowded with bees, hoverflies and butterflies, but now will stand all winter thick with seed for any bird to plunder. The seedheads are strong enough for small birds to land on them and even when the seed has dropped, the skeleton seedheads remain structurally sound until I cut them back in mid-spring. In late summer the leaves are a good buttery yellow, too.

A less beefy option is *Cenolophium*

Plants that stand tall over winter are a good refuge for wildlife, and their seedheads feed birds and mammals

denudatum, the Baltic parsley, that grows to a metre tall and looks lovely with things like astrantias. Then there are the light, airy seedheads of *Deschampsia cespitosa* “Goldtau”, and the darkest purple foliage of *Actaea* “Queen of Sheba” or *Actaea simplex* “Atropurpurea Group” – all plants that can take on autumn looking good.

All of these need cool, deep, fertile soils, however, and suffer in full sun – something to think about with periods of prolonged drought. All, that is, except the *Deschampsia*, which can tolerate temporarily and more prolonged dry spells.

Finally, I have a soft spot for *Thalictrum*. In spring, it’s all soft greens, then those delightful flowers, and by autumn the foliage has turned yellow and tan against darker stems and fine seedheads. Hard frosts will collapse them, but they go down gracefully. They do best with a little dappled shade. The deep purple stems of *Thalictrum* “Elin” (pictured) is particularly good looking: it does grow to 2.5 metres tall, but its airy nature means it fits into even smaller spaces.



Gynelle Leon’s Houseplant of the week African mask plant

Why will I love it?

The foliage of the African mask plant (*Alocasia amazonica* ‘Polly’) has a pop art look to it, and its dark green, waxy leaves contrast beautifully with its thick silvery-green veins.

Light or shade?

Bright indirect light.

Where should I put it?

On a side table close to a window, but not in full sun, so to admire it while having a cup of tea or reading. Be aware, though – the African mask plant is toxic to both people and animals, so keep it away from small children and pets.

How do I keep it alive?

It is a truly tropical plant, which is reflected in the care it requires: plenty of diffuse light, constant warmth with a minimum temperature of 15C, and a lot of humidity and frequent watering.

Did you know ...

The African mask plant isn’t African at all and originates from south-east Asia. Its leaves were thought to resemble a hand-carved African ceremonial mask. In winter, they drop all their leaves one by one, leading the uninitiated to presume that they have killed it. If this happens, don’t throw it away. Instead, reduce watering until it starts to regrow in the spring – it has just gone into dormancy.



Totally
tropical



From ceramics in rural Slovenia to map reading on Snowdonia's rocky ridges, our writers throw themselves into great trips with lessons attached

Learn as you go

Pottery in Slovenia

My arms ached from hours of pinching, squeezing and rolling, my legs were stiff after the previous afternoon's mountain hike, but I felt great: clear-headed and well slept. And the reason? Art – a subject I'd been a failure at at school, and avoided for decades.

If a change is as good as a rest, could a major switch – away from London life, and anything I felt competent at – be majorly refreshing?

This is the idea behind Vacation With An Artist (Vawaa), started in 2017 by New Yorker Geetika Agrawal to offer short breaks with talented professionals in 26 countries. Rather than taking a conventional painting holiday, travellers get to work closely alongside, say, a California printmaker or a Norwegian photographer.

Before heading to Slovenia, my friend Kalpana and I imagined our host, a ceramicist living near Ljubljana, larger than life and bossy, so were relieved to find Katja Špiler gentle, kind and encouraging.

“Creativity is a precious thing,” she

said on our first morning. “Just don't think about it too hard.” She might as well have told me not to breathe.

Katja, 41, trained as sculptor and loves using the earthiness of clay to build sculptures in ceramic. We started with the oldest technique: pinching. You only need hands for this, but strong ones: it takes effort to press a ball of fresh clay into a cup or bowl shape. It was also a lesson in slowing down, patiently coaxing the clay. “More time, better result,” said Katja.

Another method was familiar from making Christmas mince pies: rolling out clay – between wooden slats for even thickness – before pressing it over a mould. It made a more regular bowl and, led by Katja, I pressed a pleasing pattern on to mine with a textured cloth.

Just as pleasing was the unreal prettiness of Slovenia. Krize is a short drive from lakes Bled and Bohinj, but we found plenty to enjoy much closer after our hours in the studio. It was 10 minutes' drive to the high rock walls of Dovžan Gorge, with its circular walking route and scary via ferrata.

On a ceramics short break in Slovenia, left, Katja Špiler teaches Liz Boulter, on the right, and her friend Kalpana

Another afternoon we toiled for an hour up neighbouring Kriška Gora, before accepting that we wouldn't make its 1,473-metre summit.

By day two we already felt at home in the studio, tweaking and trimming pieces that had dried "leather-hard" overnight, then painting them with "engobe" pigments. Katja gave our creativity free rein, but was ready with practical help – such as a piece of foam rubber to steady your hand. I painted one bowl indigo green outside and acid yellow inside with green dots. Katja kindly said it looked "joyful". Hmm.

The plan was to complete one major work during our stay. We both opted to make a tall pot to store onions and garlic. This was the steepest learning curve and the most absorbing work: slowly building with 3cm strips of rolled clay. Hours flew by as we joined sections with "slip" (runny clay), smoothing, squeezing, trying to keep walls upright. Using my fingertips to "see" air bubbles or bulges was a new sensation for one whose most frequent connection is with a keyboard.

This is why Vawaa beats, say, evening classes. Work, home and to-do lists melted away; the only decision looming was what pattern to pick for the sides of my pot. Try achieving that between seven and nine on a Tuesday.

Our bowls were fired on the last night. Only one didn't make it: a pretty cantaloupe-coloured pinch bowl made by Kalpana shattered in the 1,000C heat because of a hidden air bubble. "It happens: that's ceramics," said Katja. "After 20 years I'm still learning."

Our big pots are still awaiting the kiln (and will be posted on to us). It takes a lifetime to become an expert ceramicist, but I left amazed at what we'd achieved in three and a half days. *A four-night stay with Vawaa (vawaa.com) costs about £950 for one or £1,285 for two, including materials, firing, accommodation and some meals. Car hire was provided by Regent Holidays (regent-holidays.co.uk), which offers self-drive tours of Slovenia from £885pp*
Liz Boulter

Map reading in Snowdonia

"Remember, when the contour lines are parallel, it's a steady slope," says Ross Worthington of Raw Adventures. "When they wriggle, it's a feature. So what will we see next?"

I'm out in the wilds of Snowdonia trying to make the scenery match up with the wiggles on the Ordnance



Orienteering in the mountains of Snowdonia, above, using the purists' GPS – a compass and paper maps, below



Survey map, as part of a two-day mountain skills course.

I peer at the map. Maroon contour lines bend into a "V" pointing towards where I know we're heading. Next to it is another "V" pointing away from us.

"The numbers inside that V get smaller," I say, pointing at the V coming towards us, remembering what I'd been taught the day before. "That means it's a gully. The other V has bigger numbers in the middle so it's a ridge. We want to take the gully downhill."

We pick our way down the gully, alongside a stream to the floor of the Ogwen Valley. When we reach the bottom, I look up at the ridge, which ends in steep, rocky cliffs.

"Well done," says Ross. "If we'd taken the ridge, we'd have had to turn back."

While more of us than ever are striding across valleys and hiking up peaks, Britain's mountains can be hazardous. Mountain Rescue England and Wales responds to about 3,000 call-outs every year, to people getting lost or injured, and a recent poll found that 77% of us could not

identify even basic map symbols.

Part of the problem is that people follow a route on their phones, but get into problems when they hit difficult terrain, when their phone runs out of battery life or when bad weather sets in, explains Ross.

"A bit of education keeps you out of trouble in the first place, and keeps you safe if things don't go to plan."

Our group of four had started at a hostel in Llanberis, checking our kit for spare, warm and wet-weather clothing.

"Hypothermia happens fast," says Ross, "and can strike even in good weather, particularly if you get injured."

We go through weather forecasting (using barometric maps on the Met Office website), map reading, grid references and the use of a compass. As soon as we step out the door, we put it into practice.

It's quite intense but doesn't take too long before I can look at a map and the lines and symbols come to life, and match the terrain we're



walking through. Ross takes us through the emergency procedures and campsite selection, and we set up our tents on a patch of dry ground, sheltered from the prevailing wind. As darkness falls, we do some night navigation, following a compass bearing to nearby features, forcing me to trust my skills, and not just my eyes.

I'm exhausted by the time we reach Llanberis again, with contour lines swimming before my closed eyes. I've since spent more time in the mountains, with more confidence than ever before - and I haven't needed to bother Mountain Rescue once.

The two-day UK Mountain Skills course with Raw Adventures (raw-adventures.co.uk) costs £140 per person

Ash Bhardwaj

Chairmaking in Sussex

I'm standing in a wood with an axe in my hands. Holding a length of ash upright on a rudimentary wooden table, I hack away. It soon looks like it has been attacked by an angry beaver. I find it hard to believe that I'll end up with a chair by the end of the week.

But that's the plan: I have five days to make a Windsor-style chair. My tutor is Danny Harling, a furniture maker who runs green woodworking courses from his ancient woodland a few miles east of Lewes.

There are six of us in the group. Most leave the woodland each evening, but I've opted to stay in the on-site log cabin, which is furnished with a bed and a wood burner, but has no running water or electricity - and no lock. I sleep fitfully, aware of a creature scratching outside.

I spend most of day two sitting on a shaving horse making 10 spindles. The muscles in my hands, arms and shoulders protest but my brain ignores them. Without any conscious effort my mind has switched off. I sleep for 10 hours straight on the second night.

On the morning of day three, Danny hands out heavy chunks of wood which will become seats. It's time to use the adze. Trying to swing this unwieldy, long-handled tool accurately enough to shave off a sliver of wood takes a level of skill I don't have. But Danny is always on hand to help, reassuring us whenever we get stuck. "I'll worry," he says. "You don't need to."

At lunchtime, Danny's mum arrives with homemade soup, bread and fruit cake. The blackened teapot is put on the fire and we eat under the trees.



Deborah Gray (below, on the left) and new friends on Tony Hawks' writing course in Skyros



Green wood contains moisture, so the spindles and stretchers are dried in an old oil drum. To make the bow backs, long pieces of wood are steamed to soften them, then quickly bent into shape. The only time we use an electric tool is to drill holes in the seat for the spindles before assembling all the components.

My finished chair is a thing of beauty. Sure, it has flaws - but they are evidence of a learning process that was about more than producing a physical object. It was an exercise in the meditative power of nature - and trying something new.

The five-day chairmaking course with Sussex Green Woodworking (sussexgreenwoodworking.co.uk) costs £475 excluding cabin accommodation; the next available course is in June 2023

Isabel Choat

Humorous writing in Greece

In the warmth of a beautiful Greek evening, I am standing on a makeshift stage happily telling my fellow travellers all about my proclivity for sharing embarrassing stories about my knickers - beginning with the

Isabel Choat, left, making her Windsor-style chair, right, in Sussex



one about the spa and the lacy thong.

I had signed up to a week-long humorous writing course with comedian Tony Hawks (a regular on I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue and author of books including Round Ireland with a Fridge) on the island of Skyros in the wintery depths of the second lockdown, when my greatest need was for laughter and joy.

Months later, I join the trip with some trepidation. Skyros Holidays are described as "holistic retreats" and "community-based", not the sort of holiday I'm usually tempted by: all-inclusive food, eco huts with shared facilities and organised evening activities.

Alongside the writing sessions, there's a selection of creative and wellbeing activities to dip into. I rise before breakfast for yoga and go kayaking and wild swimming in the afternoon. As the sun sets, I practise Qigong on the seashore.

Mornings are spent in stitches courtesy of Tony. He talks about the art of humour, regaling us with hilarious, well-crafted anecdotes to illustrate devices such as ranting and self-depreciation, which professional comedians use to get an audience on side. Then, he sends us off to write.

Siesta time is thus spent under a pine tree, overlooking a sublime Aegean bay, amusing myself with pen and paper.

One morning we play a version of the Radio 4's The Unbelievable Truth - whoever knew that telling convincing lies was such an art. Other days I'm challenged to sneak as many song titles as possible into a diatribe about Abba or work out whether the dissolving ski pants story flows best after the thong/spa exposé or the semi-naked beef-weighing one. The results, though hardly high art, make the class laugh (and groan).

The greatest revelation is that I enjoy performing, even though public speaking usually scares me. I find making people laugh brings me the joy I was seeking and I revel in the audience interaction. Which is how I came to be oversharing on that moonlit stage, safe in the knowledge that I'm among friends, my body and soul uplifted by the holiday. I'm returning to Skyros this September to try my hand at standup - and that I find truly astonishing. *Skyros activity holidays (skyros.com) start at £795 including full-board, courses and activities*

Deborah Gray



Ballroom dancing in Vienna

It's a seductive proposition. A few nights in Vienna, taming loose limbs and freeing rigid hips, guided by the strong arms and twinkle-toes of a ballroom icon. Dubbed the "Len Goodman of Austria", Thomas Schäfer-Elmayer is a super-star in Vienna's dance scene and, like Goodman, an elegant silver fox in his 70s. He is also a judge on Austria's version of Strictly Come Dancing and owner of Elmayer Dance School, established in 1919 by his grandfather. As a Strictly fan, I watched in awe as pro dancer Aljaž Škorjanec whisked BBC news reader Kate Silvertown around Blackpool's dazzling chandelier-decked dancefloor. Could I ever float as effortlessly in a swirl of layered chiffon to a Viennese waltz? A call to the dance school and I'm assured I can. Book a single lesson, or a course. I opt for three sessions over three days with the option to add umpteen more - it's flexible. I'm nervous as I wait outside the famous green doors of the dance school, carrying a pair of glittery dance shoes in sweaty hands. Vienna still hosts 450 sellout formal balls every year at which guests are expected to dance to a high standard, not do an aimless shuffle, and Schäfer-

Elmayer teaches thousands each year. He greets me formally, dipping his head and taking my clammy hand. The first session is all about confidence, which I am seriously lacking. I'm given some basic pointers re footwork - forward and backward steps. "Feel the waltz," Schäfer-Elmayer urges as he guides me around the floor at a frighteningly rapid rate. The pace quickens - four, maybe five-fold - for this is no plodding English waltz but a spirited 180 beats a minute whirl. We canter off, in improved synchronicity, with Schäfer-Elmayer pulling my wayward limbs tightly back into hold - a "sinful" grip that once caused the outlawing of the Viennese waltz as it was deemed too vulgar and too risqué. As I whirl and spin, dopamine, oxytocin and serotonin course through my veins and all dizziness is forgotten. Each day, my steps and flow steadily improve. On my last day, as I reposition my head on a turn, I catch a glimpse of

Maximum points for Sarah Woods



myself in the studio mirrors. Wow - is that really me? A dancer with fuchsia-pink cheeks, beautiful posture and finesse, and a beaming smile like an over-stretched hammock is looking back at me. Lessons at Elmayer dance school (elmayer.at) from €75 for one person or a couple. Sessions daily between 8am and 10pm (must be pre-booked) Sarah Woods

Bushcraft in Cornwall

"Pull the skin down like you're pulling off a pair of pyjamas," my butchery guide, outdoorsman and TV presenter Thom Hunt tells me as I delicately try to get the pelt off a freshly shot deer. Skinning and butchering a deer is harder work than I'd imagined but I determinedly keep going with a sharp knife, making punchy incisions and eventually, voilà, the skin comes right off so I can see the lipstick-hued flesh underneath. I'm in the wilds of Cornwall outside Truro at Hunt's bushcraft school 7th Rise, with a group of eight girlfriends. There's a range of workshops and courses on offer here, covering everything from mackerel fishing to wood whittling, but we've signed up to the three-day Rewild adventure. Our accommodation is in a woodman's

Mastering the waltz in Vienna, left, the city that gave it to the world; Sadie Whitelocks foraging and feasting in Cornwall with Thom Hunt, below

cottage, a treehouse and converted potting shed. While the butchery session is too much for our vegetarian friend, who heads off for a walk, we're learning plenty of other skills, from firelighting to foraging. It's satisfying to discover the wild food all around. We learn to identify wild garlic, samphire and cress to add to our evening feast, eaten using cutlery whittled out of foraged wood earlier that day. Woodsmoke scents my hair following our firelighting course, the art of rubbing a flint and steel together surprisingly easy, although the damp twigs require ardent blowing to keep the flames alive. Hunt describes these courses as the "ultimate bonding experience, because everyone gets to enjoy the satisfaction of completing a task together". The lack of phone signal means we aren't distracted, too. Whether I'll use these skills again I don't know, but my whittled spoon sits proudly in my cutlery drawer back home. Weekend adventure courses at 7th Rise (7thrise.co.uk) from £345; day courses throughout the year from £40 (£25 kids) Sadie Whitelocks



Puzzle solutions

(puzzles on page 93)

Answers to quiz by Thomas Eaton

- 1 Maya Angelou.
- 2 Isle of Man.
- 3 Mary Rose.
- 4 Paraguay.
- 5 Cross-country skiing and ski jumping.
- 6 Beethoven's 6th (Pastoral) symphony.
- 7 7. 8 Robinson Crusoe.

- 9 Five rivers that give Punjab its name (Indus tributaries).
- 10 Movements in dressage.
- 11 Four fundamental forces.
- 12 New Year celebrations: Thai; Vietnamese; Iranian; Jewish.
- 13 Cities named after British prime ministers:

- Wellington; Melbourne; Pitt the Elder.
- 14 Musicians who served in the military.
- 15 Played by performers with months for first names: January Jones (Mad Men); April Hernandez (Dexter); May Calamawy (Moon Knight); June Brown (EastEnders).

Answers to Weekend Crossword by Sy

W		M	S	L	C	
T	E	D	V	I	R	T
S		S	N	I	W	M
S	T	R	E	I	S	A
	S	T	G			O
E	D	D	A	V	E	Y
R	M		R	P	R	E
D	O	V	E	R	M	E
W		B	L	D		
A	N	C	W	A	V	I
I	E	N	S	E	P	
I	N	V	E	R	N	E
G	C	S	E		N	

Four medieval churches, a maze of dykes and a pub last renovated in the 1870s are the stars of this stroll

How far to the pub? The Red Lion, Romney Marsh, Kent

Words: Simon Richmond
Photography: Peter Flude

Start	Snargate
Distance	8.3 miles
Time	3 hours
Total ascent	None
Difficulty	Easy

The walk Churches in the Romney Marsh

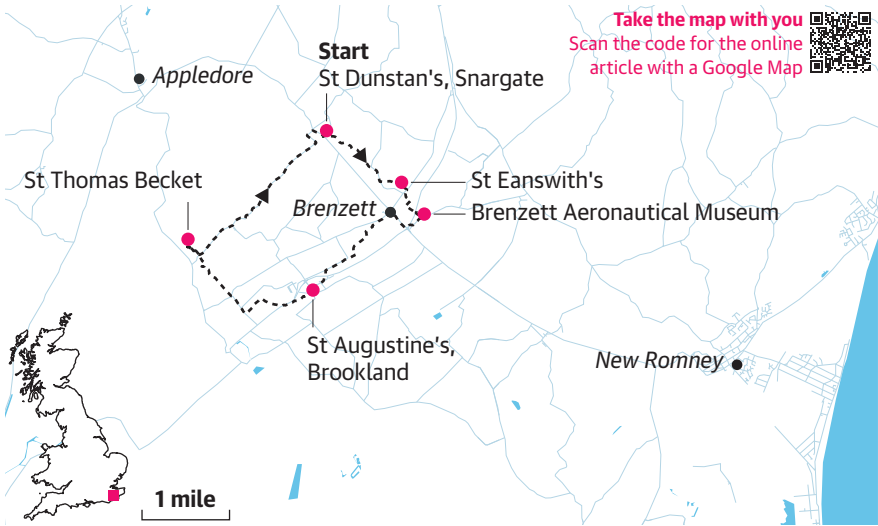
If ever a pub was destined to be haunted by a friendly ghost, it's the Red Lion. Regulars swear that the spirit of former landlady Doris Jemison lingers in this inn that has been a landmark in Snargate, a hamlet on Kent's Romney Marsh, since the 1540s. Doris, who died in 2016, is buried in the graveyard of Saint Dunstan's church, just up the lane. "But she's very much here rather than there," says her daughter Kate, who now calls time from across the marble-topped bar. Paintings, photos and other Doris mementoes take pride of place in the Red Lion, whose museum-like interior has changed little in over a century. Having raised a glass of delicious toffee-apple-flavoured cider to Doris, I set off on my walk. Inside Saint Dunstan's I'm drawn to the ghostly image of a galleon, etched in red lines on the plaster wall. It was uncovered during renovations in 1964, and some say the ship is a sign that the late 12th-century church was once a haven for what was known on the marsh as the "free trade" - smuggling.

For about four years from 1817, Richard Harris Barham was rector at Saint Dunstan's. Under his pen name, Thomas Ingoldsby, Barham wrote the humorous tales known as the Ingoldsby Legends, one of which begins: "The world, according to the best geographers, is divided into Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Romney Marsh." This led to Romney Marsh being called the "fifth continent", a title adopted by the Fifth Continent Landscape Partnership Scheme, an organisation devoted to preserving and celebrating the marsh's countryside, history and traditions. In collaboration with Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust, the Fifth Continent has created a self-guided tour app for the marsh's 14 medieval churches. I learn that the spectral ship mural was "more likely a backdrop to a guild altar for shipwrights in the area when it was full of sinuous creeks and saltmarsh". The marsh is still bisected by dykes and drainage channels - called sewers - forming a system of serpentine paths. A case in point is the bridleway that wriggles alongside a "sewer" between Snargate and Brenzett. I bash along the track through fluffy heads of waist-high cow parsley, scattering iridescent blue damselflies and orange tortoiseshell butterflies. Marsh terrain may be pancake-flat, but wayfinding can be tricky when the rights of way are obscured by heavily



On the level
A swan floats across a classic Romney Marsh scene of ditches, grassland and sheep, above; Saint Dunstan's, left, is one of 14 medieval churches on the marshes; the Red Lion, below, dates from the mid-16th century





Jet setting
An ex-RAF De Havilland Vampire jet from the early 1950s, right, at the Brenzett Aeronautical Museum; the Red Lion, below right, has been in the same family since 1911



Snargate. Along the way I pass a field of lime-green wheat rippling in the breeze – a mesmeric scene that reminds me of John Betjeman’s line that Romney Marsh is a place where “the roads wind like streams through pasture and the sky is always three-quarters of the landscape”.

Back at the Red Lion I am more than ready for a reviving pint of Goacher’s DSB – “Doris’ Special Bitter” – named in honour of the former landlady.

ornate antique beds, roll-top baths and small complimentary decanters of port. The marine-themed Frederick suite (named after the friendly resident ghost) also has a woodburning stove. The wonky-beamed pub, which used to be connected by a smugglers’ tunnel to Saint Matthew’s Church opposite, offers mains such as Rye Bay huss curry, plus steak and woodfired pizza. *Doubles from £100 B&B, woolpackwarehorne.co.uk*

Slow Travel Kent by Simon Richmond (Bradt, £14.99) is out now



The pub
Last refurbished in the 1870s, the Red Lion (no website) has been home to the Jemison family since 1911, when Kate’s grandfather Alfred became the landlord. Alfred’s old bicycle leans against the pub wall, and there’s a framed photo of him beside the bar. The walls are plastered with second world war posters and pub-of-the-year certificates. Entertainment includes vintage games such as bagatelle and toad in the hole, and an old piano donated by a customer. The real ales and local ciders are all gravity-pulled straight from their casks.

Where to stay
The Woolpack Inn in Warehorne, three miles north of Snargate, has been welcoming guests since 1570. Narrow, winding stairs lead to five en suite rooms handsomely furnished with

planted fields or rampant plant growth. One considerate farmer has blazed a golden strip of glyphosate-treated wheat to delineate the footpath towards Saint Eanswith’s in Brenzett. This is the only church in England dedicated to the Anglo-Saxon princess who founded a nunnery at Folkestone in 630. Her image is at the centre of the church’s Marsh Mosaic, another of the Fifth Continent local projects.

In the Lady Chapel is the tomb of John Fagge and his son, 17th-century gentlemen from Rye whose alabaster effigies recline on top. These peaceful-looking, lifesize sculptures were the inspiration for Edith Nesbit’s spine-tingling ghost story, *Man-Size in Marble*. The author of *The Railway Children* lived down the road in Saint Mary’s Bay and is buried in the graveyard of Saint Mary in the Marsh.

Relics of second world war aircraft surround the Brenzett Aeronautical Museum, which is reached via a footpath across the A2070. Used as an advanced landing ground for D-day, the site was later a base for the Women’s Land Army, one of whose recruits was a young Doris Jemison.

The museum dates from 1972, when the founder, whose “hobby was digging up crashed planes across the Marsh” amassed a collection too big for his own home. I learn this nugget from a pocket-size “people’s guidebook” to north Kent called *Everywhere Means Something to*

Someone. Recently published by *Strange Cargo*, it’s an evocative collection of stories and memories of hundreds of local people.

From the museum, I navigate tracks across more fields and the old Dungeness branch railway line to Saint Augustine’s in Brookland. An unusual feature here is its freestanding wooden bell tower, but for local historian and church expert John Hendy, the late-12th-century lead font inside is its most unique treasure. “Looking at the font’s decoration, you can tell how they farmed and dressed in 1175 – it’s an astonishing document,” he says.

A fragment of a medieval wall painting in St Augustine’s depicting the murder of Archbishop Thomas Becket foreshadows the fourth church on my route. Surrounded by dykes and grazing sheep, the Saint Thomas Becket church cuts a dramatic, solitary figure. Late-afternoon sunlight filters through moody clouds as I approach Fairfield across buttercup- and clover-speckled fields to the diminutive church.

Saint Thomas Becket has been much rebuilt over the centuries, but the intimate Georgian interior with its white-painted box pews and triple-decker pulpit is unique among Romney Marsh churches. The door is locked, but a key hangs on the yard wall of nearby Becket Barn Farm.

One more meandering country lane leads me from Fairfield back to

Wish you were Here...

OLD COURSE HOTEL.



OLD COURSE HOTEL
ST ANDREWS
GOLF RESORT & SPA

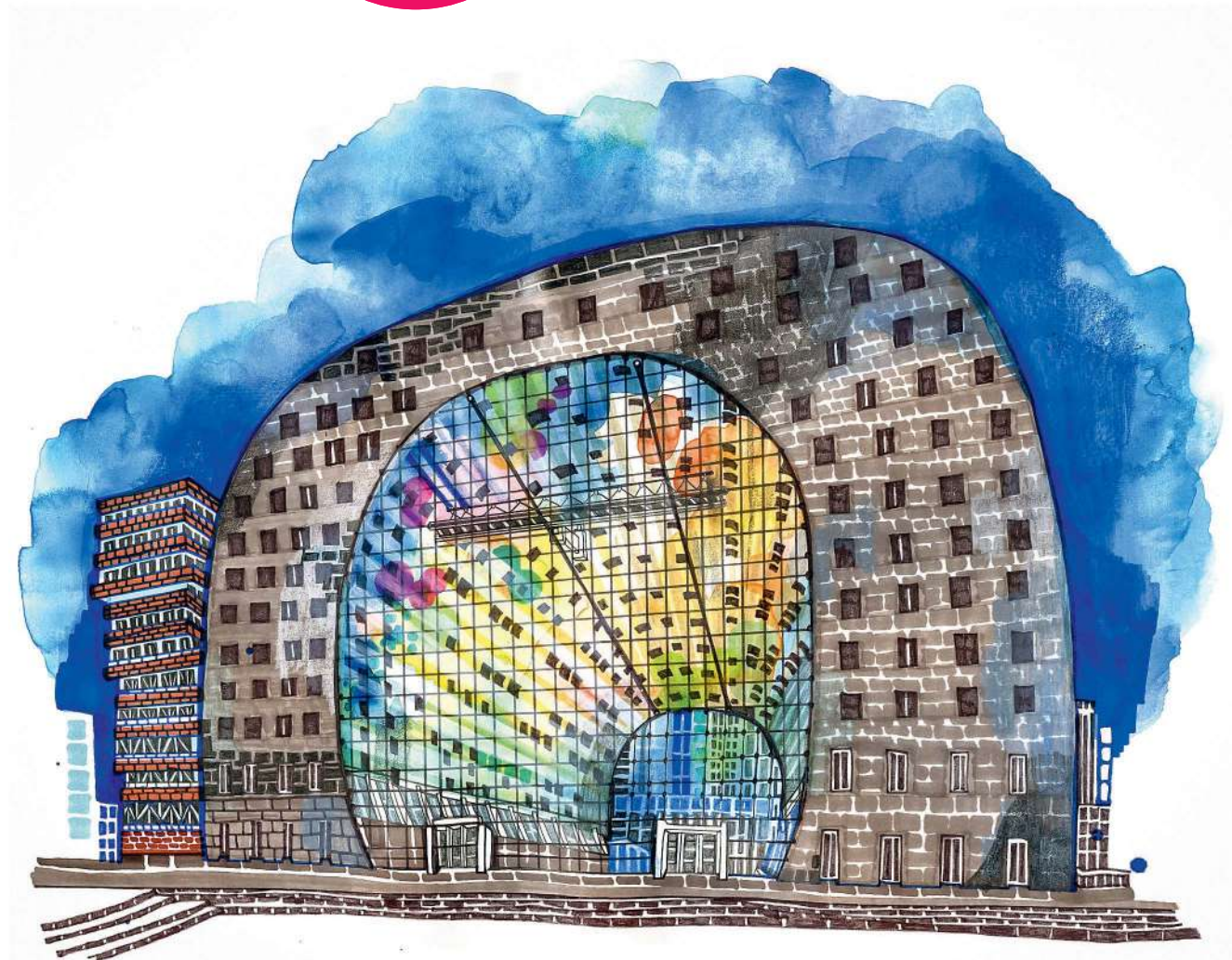
A KOHLER EXPERIENCE

LEGEND

Preferred

HOTELS & RESORTS

For reservations and booking, please call +44 (0) 1334 474371,
email reservations@oldcoursehotel.co.uk, or visit
www.oldcoursehotel.co.uk



A local's guide to Rotterdam

From the best kimchi to buzzing galleries and gardens, restaurateur **Manuela Gonçalves Tavares** is proud to share the secrets of the Netherlands' second city

Interview: Stephen Emms

Food

Dutch food was once all meat, veg and potatoes, but in the 1950s migrants from all over the world started arriving and created the food culture we now have. A popular tourist market is Markthal (pictured above) with about 100 vendors, including Natamania, which sells delicious Portuguese *pastéis de nata*.

But my favourites are the Korean places in the Hoogkwartier area, home also to my restaurant, Coco, which serves food from the Caribbean, Suriname and Cape Verde. Bapboss serves the best spicy kimchi in town: I love its rice - cooking rice is an art - and the excellent *galbi* (marinated Korean beef rib) is sliced thin for the barbecue. Another must is Ox, a new Malaysian-Chinese pop-up: it's small, stylish and hidden away (you're given instructions on how to find it when you book). The menu changes regularly, but I'd eat everything there as the level of cooking - and the cocktails - is very high.

Inspiration

Het Nieuwe Instituut is the Netherlands' national museum for design and culture, with interactive exhibitions on architecture, dance culture, music and fashion. I also

like Mama, a gallery and creative space founded in 1997 on Witte De Withstraat, a buzzy street many tourists enjoy visiting. Mama aims to connect young people to art: it hosts performances, exhibitions and events.

Neighbourhood

I grew up in multicultural West Kruiskade. My parents came over in the 1950s from Cape Verde: back then they put all the migrants in the same neighbourhood. It might have been poor and ugly, but the people that live here have made it rich with their culture, whether from the Dutch colonies or Iran.

I especially love the *tokos*, the little bodegas where you can buy food from the Caribbean, sweet jam, plantain, fake hair, skin creams and shampoos. When I began studying French cuisine



it was these *tokos* that gave me the inspiration to cook differently.

Rotterdam's Chinatown is here, too - my top restaurant tip is Tai Wu, which has been open for 25 years - but there's so much good food, from Spanish to Turkish. And Wijkpark, the local park, has art and a petting farm.

Green space

I live in Kralingen now, a more affluent but also studenty area. Its botanic Trompenburg Gardens (pictured below) are known for their biodiversity, with unique trees, shrubs and flowers. A highlight is the desert greenhouse, filled with cacti and succulents. It's stunning. And, as the gardens are off the beaten track, they're not often overcrowded, even when the sun is out.

Nightlife

I normally go to Baroeg, one of the oldest clubs in Rotterdam, which specialises in metal, punk and rock. Poing has retro arcade games and karaoke, and my favourite cocktail bar is Spikizi, where I always order a Moscow mule. The gay bars here cater mostly for men, but cool queer-friendly clubs include Worm, Tech Noir and Now & Wow in Maassilo, a renovated grain silo built in 1910. Look out for one-off LGBTQ+ events celebrating black ballroom culture. Drag queens and kings perform in many restaurants and other venues across the city.

Where to stay

Mainport (doubles from €115 room-only, mainporthotel.com) is a design hotel on the banks of the River Maas. There is a terrace with views of the Erasmus Bridge and the old harbour, and on another floor there is a swimming pool overlooking the whole city skyline.

The historic Hotel New York (doubles from €122 room-only, hotelnewyork.com) is in the former headquarters of the Holland-America Line, and has a good fish restaurant. I also recommend Bazaar (doubles from €85 B&B, hotelbazar.nl) on Witte de Withstraat: its characterful bedrooms are inspired by Asia and Africa.

Manuela Gonçalves Tavares is the chef-owner of Coco, which specialises in Caribbean, Surinamese and Cape Verdean cuisine (temporarily closed but reopening soon), and the plant-based Het Nieuwe Café

60% OFF EVERYTHING IN OUR BIGGEST SUMMER SALE EVER!

FAST DELIVERY AVAILABLE - DELIVERED WITHIN 3 WORKING DAYS

WHILE STOCKS LAST!



BEST SELLER!

Palma - Corner Rattan Garden Lounge Set

This stylish lounge set, which seats up to 9, is the perfect setting for alfresco dining. Constructed using durable polyrattan, making it practical and hardwearing. Consisting of a deluxe 7 seater sofa, square stool, rectangular stool and a generously sized coffee table with a glass table top. The luxurious thick cushions come in a chic Grey and have removable covers for washing.

Normally £1399 Now **£559.60*** when you quote your **60% off discount code GSSEP22** at checkout.



GREAT VALUE!

Santorini - Lounge Set with Side Cushions

If it is versatility you're looking for then look no further than the sleek, modular Santorini lounge set. Consisting of a right-hand and a left-hand sofa, two ottomans and a compact coffee table, allowing you to transform your garden set into a variety of options when placed in multiple combinations. Also available in Blue and comes with a 12-month constructional warranty.

Normally £1199 Now **£479.60*** when you quote your **60% off discount code GSSEP22** at checkout.



SUPREME COMFORT!

Marbella - 5-Seater Corner Lounge Set

Relax in your garden without a care in the world with this stunning rattan lounge set. Brought to you in an elegant Earth Grey colour theme, this set will add character and personality to your garden. With its galvanised steel frame, this set is virtually maintenance-free and seats 5 comfortably so you can entertain outside with ease. Includes a tempered glass-topped coffee table.

Normally £1199 Now **£479.60*** when you quote your **60% off discount code GSSEP22** at checkout.



SCAN OR VISIT **OUTANDOUT.COM** TO VIEW OUR FULL RANGE. GET **60% OFF ALL PRODUCTS** WHEN YOU ENTER **CODE GSSEP22** AT CHECKOUT.

*Excludes delivery. While stocks last. Prices correct at time of going to press.

OUT & OUT

The kids' quiz
Molly Oldfield

This quiz answers questions posed by children – will you get a better score than your parents?



1 Lachlan, 7, asks: what dragon was the first one to come along?
A The first dragon walked out of the mist in Skye, Scotland, when time began
B Dragon myths have been around for so long, it's not possible to find the first
C The first dragon was born in China; its mother was a snake, its father an eagle
D Puff the Magic Dragon was the first

2 Audrey, 4, asks: how big was a megalodon?
A 8-10 metres long
B 15-18 metres long
C 20-30 metres long
D 100-120 metres long

3 Lidewij, 7, asks: how big is Mount Everest?
A 6,225 metres tall
B 8,849 metres tall
C 15,221 metres tall
D 18,000 metres tall

4 Zoya, 7, asks: who invented slides?
A A man called William Slide, from Boston, Massachusetts, US
B A man called Charles Wicksteed, from England
C A lady called Madame Glissant, from Paris
D A child who lived in Pembrokeshire, whose name was Amelia

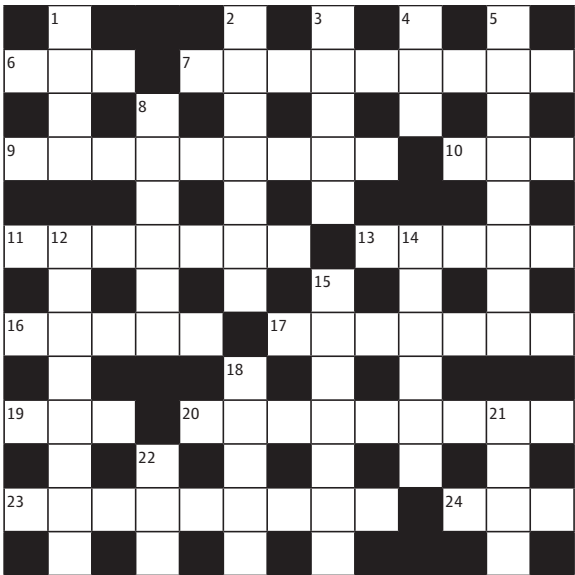
5 Charlotte, 7, asks: why do diamonds shine?
A Diamonds on rings are cut cleverly to give them lots of surfaces, which reflect lots of light and make them shine
B They are full of sunlight which shines out of them
C They contain a gas that sparkles inside when you shine a light on diamonds
D Because they're polished a lot to make them sparkle



Answers (no peeking!)
1 B. The idea of dragons came along in Europe, the Near East, ancient Mesopotamia – perhaps also in the Americas and Australia – as far back as we can know. Ancient people might have discovered dinosaur bones, whalebones, fossilized crocodiles or monitor lizards and thought they were dragons. They've been in folk tales for so long, it's not possible to find the first.
2 B. Megalodon fossils have been found that are 20m years old. The enormous shark was 15-18 metres long – three times longer than the largest great white – and had 276 teeth, which could be 18cm long (megalodon means “large tooth”). Its bite was 100 times more powerful than a human's!
3 B. Mount Everest, on the border of Nepal and Tibet, is the world's tallest mountain, at 8,849 metres.
4 B. In 1922, Charles Wicksteed made children's slides, out of planks of wood, for a park in England, then he sold them around the world.
5 A. Diamonds on jewellery shine because they are cut to give them many surfaces, called facets. When light reflects off these, the diamonds sparkle.

Molly Oldfield hosts Everything Under the Sun, a weekly podcast (and book) answering children's questions. Does your child have a question? Submit one at gu.com/kidsquiz

Weekend crossword
Sy



Across
6 Organisation known for its curation of “ideas worth spreading” (3)
7 People who excel at technique in the arts, especially music (9)
9 Barbra, singer (9)
10 The Naked ..., by Desmond Morris (1967) (3)
11 The leader of the Liberal Democrats (2,5)
13 The, 1989 sci-fi movie starring Ed Harris and Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (5)
16 Beach on which Matthew Arnold heard the pebbles’ “grating roar”? (5)
17 Gates, philanthropist (7)
19 South Africa’s ruling party (3)
20 See 24
23 City at the northern end of the Great Glen Way (9)
24/20/12 The poor chap’s condition in Stevie Smith’s poem? (3,6,3,8)

Down
1 See 5
2 See 5
3 Stage name of Gordon Sumner (5)
4 Sir David, cartoonist who satirised Hitler (3)
5/21/1/2/14 What Wordsworth did on September 3, 1802? (8,4,11,6)
8 Plant used as a code word in the Ali Baba fables (6)
12 See 24
14 See 5
15 Fur coat worn typically by cavalry officers (7)
18 Declarations of forthcoming marriages in a parish church (5)
21 See 5
22 The forerunner of the EU (3)

Solutions to Crossword and Thomas Eaton's quiz page 87

Quiz
Thomas Eaton

1 Which writer from Stamps, Arkansas, appeared on a US stamp in 2015?
2 Mec Vannin campaigns for which island's independence?
3 What was the ill-fated sister ship of the Peter Pomegranate?
4 Alfredo Stroessner ruled which country for almost 35 years?
5 Which two sports feature in Nordic combined?
6 What ends with “thankful feelings after the storm”?
7 What is the pH value of pure water?
8 Which character was born in York with the surname Kreutznaer?
What links:
9 Beas; Chenab; Jhelum; Ravi; Sutlej?
10 Piaffe; passage; pirouette; half-pass?
11 Weak; strong; gravitational; electromagnetic?
12 Songkran; Tet Nguyen Dan; Nowruz; Rosh Hashanah?
13 New Zealand's capital; Victoria's capital; Pennsylvania's second city?
14 Elvis Presley; Tony Bennett; Jimi Hendrix; Ice-T; Shaggy; James Blunt?
15 Betty Draper; Cira Manzon; Layla El-Faouly/Scarlet Scarab; Dot Cotton?

ILLUSTRATION: HENNIE HAWORTH

Stephen Collins

TOP TIPS for DROPPING YOUR KIDS OFF AT UNI



Stephen Collins COLILLO.COM

Sirin Kale **Guardian angel**
Making nice things happen for nice people



Katja Pavlovna, co-founder of the Sorry My Mental Illness Isn't Sexy Enough For You website, and, bottom, in her new glittery boots

'You can have a normal life': the campaigner telling the truth about personality disorders



Katja Pavlovna doesn't think any mental illness is sexy, of course. But her mental health initiative, Sorry My Mental Illness Isn't Sexy Enough For You, addresses a very real issue, namely the way some conditions carry a greater stigma than others.

"When we think about mental health," says Pavlovna, "we often think depression, anxiety, PTSD or bipolar disorder. But have you ever talked to someone about schizotypal personality disorder?"

Pavlovna, 34, a language teacher from the West Midlands, founded the project in 2021, shortly after being diagnosed with borderline personality disorder (BPD). "I set it up with my friend Kay Garbett, who also has a personality disorder," she says. "We had numerous conversations about the way that if you Google 'personality disorder', you get loads of information, but few stories about lived experience. We set up the project to give a voice to people who don't normally have one."

Their website shares anonymous first-person testimony from people all over the world living with

a mental illness. At first, people in their social circle shared their experiences but now, most of their stories come in through social media.

It was tough at first, says Pavlovna. "People didn't want to talk to us. Most representation of serious mental illness is really negative and reinforces harmful stereotypes." But when users saw honest and accurate reflections of the lived reality of mental health conditions, the submissions started flooding



in. Pavlovna and Garbett often discovered conditions they had never heard about.

It took Pavlovna six years to be diagnosed with BPD. "I am what you would probably describe as high-functioning," she says. "I have a family. I work full-time. It's hard, unless you know me well, to know something's not right. I'd be put on a waiting list to be referred somewhere, go for my appointment and be told, 'There's nothing wrong with you'."

At first, she was scared that her diagnosis would stop her doing the job she loved. But by reading accounts of living with BPD, she realised that it was a completely manageable condition.

"You can have a relatively normal life with a personality disorder," Pavlovna says. "That really put my mind at rest." In fact, the diagnosis has been helpful at work. "It meant I could communicate what was wrong to other people, and make adjustments."

Sorry My Mental Illness Isn't Sexy Enough For You offers information and reassurance to others who might be anxious about their diagnosis. "Knowledge is power," says Pavlovna. "And a personal resource is so helpful. I related much more to people sharing their own experiences than to NHS guidelines."

Pavlovna welcomes submissions from people with all mental health conditions, even the most stigmatised and taboo. "This is about awareness," she says. "We're not saying everyone with a personality disorder is perfect. It's about acknowledging how damaging stigma can be, and how it stops people seeking help."

"Katja deserves to be recognised for her tireless work," says co-founder Garbett. "She has given a voice to some of the most discriminated-against people and helped educate the world. It has been a privilege to work alongside her and share her passion for making the world a less hate-filled place."

Pavlovna has seen attitudes change. "I went to school in the early 2000s," she recalls, "and mental health then wasn't even a discussion." But there is still work to do. "When we talk about mental health, the conversation veers towards general wellbeing. People have this idea that mental illnesses are quite fixable, but that's not always the case."

She spends around 10 hours a week editing and uploading personal testimony on to the site, and managing its Instagram page. It's time-consuming, but worth it. "I get messages saying, 'Thank you for bringing awareness to my personality disorder'. And messages from people in relationships with people with personality disorders, saying that it's given them a different perspective."

For her treat, Pavlovna suggests a pair of shoes from her favourite designer, Irregular Choice. "I tend to be quite a bold and eccentric dresser," she tells me. She has her eye on a pair of multicoloured, glittery boots covered in stars.

The brand sends her a voucher, which she spends on the boots, which she's thrilled with. Her style icon is the designer Zandra Rhodes, "because she doesn't dress to please anyone, or conform to age expectations."

The boots may be a little bit too full-on for work, Pavlovna admits. "As much as I'd love to wear them to school, I may have to save them for weekends."



**Sam is taking
action for climate
with solar panels**

e.on

**We're helping more
and more people do their bit.**

eonenergy.com



THE AIR-KING

Introduced in 1958 as a tribute to aviation pioneers,
the Air-King, with the original lettering and highly legible minutes scale,
continues to pay homage to the golden age of flight.

#Perpetual



OYSTER PERPETUAL AIR-KING

DMR

DAVID M ROBINSON
JEWELLERY & WATCHES

LIVERPOOL ONE
MANCHESTER
ALTRINCHAM
CANARY WHARF

WWW.DAVIDMROBINSON.CO.UK

WATCH FEATURED SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY

The Guardian University Guide 2023

The
Guardian





**University of
Sunderland**

A LIFE-CHANGING UNIVERSITY



**A THRIVING AND DIVERSE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY WITH
23,500 STUDENTS ACROSS THE WORLD, WITH CAMPUSES
IN SUNDERLAND, LONDON AND HONG KONG**

**7,000 STUDENTS ON TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION
COURSES IN 23 PARTNER INSTITUTIONS IN 18 COUNTRIES**

**OVER A THIRD OF STUDENTS IN SUNDERLAND ON
HEALTH-RELATED PROGRAMMES, PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN
RECRUITMENT FOR THE NORTH EAST'S NHS WORKFORCE**

**IN THE TOP 10% OF UNIVERSITIES NATIONALLY FOR
SUPPORTING LOCAL GROWTH AND REGENERATION,
CONTRIBUTING AN ESTIMATED GROSS £476
MILLION TO THE NORTH EAST ECONOMY**

**MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN AREAS AS
DIVERSE AS MEDICINE, NURSING, EDUCATION,
COMPUTER SCIENCE, AND ARTS AND MEDIA
SUBJECTS IN RECENT YEARS**



SUNDERLAND.AC.UK

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Rachel Hall
University Guide editor

Welcome to the Guardian University Guide 2023. Life is feeling closer to normal after nearly three years of disruption, which means prospective students can look forward to enjoying everything university has to offer. That means working hard, but also making new friends, discovering new interests and - just as important - having fun. This guide is here to help you figure out what matters to you most.

Unlike other league tables, the Guardian rankings focus on the things students care about, such as good teaching and job prospects, rather than basing them on academic research. We rank universities through nine scores, which form a total out of 100.

These include what students say about their teaching, feedback and the course itself in the annual National Student Survey. This year we combined 2021 and 2022 to reflect how universities responded to the pandemic.

We also look at how big class sizes are through the student-to-staff ratio and how much universities spend on teaching per student, as well as students' A-level grades and whether their academic performance improves at university (the value-added score), and how likely they are to continue with their course.

There's also data on how many students get graduate jobs 15 months after leaving university. We used data from 2018/19 and 2019/20 to minimise the impact of the pandemic, although there is still some disruption relative to earlier cohorts.

Any blank spaces mean there is data missing, so we focus on the other measures.

In this special supplement, you'll find our overall league table of UK universities on pages 4-5. You'll also want to think about which universities are best at teaching the course you're passionate about - leaf through our subject profiles and tables from page 17. We have also added 12 new subjects this year based on the search terms students use, and to reflect their increasing popularity.

The rankings change annually, and some universities may benefit from temporary measures such as funding boosts. Don't forget that universities which languish at the bottom of the overall table can be top for certain subjects.

After a difficult period and in the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, you might be worrying about your future. On pages 10-11, the experts reveal how you can set yourself up for your dream job, and which course and university can take you there. We've filled pages 13-16 with information to help you make the most of your university experience, from choosing extracurriculars to setting a budget.

So, if you're feeling overwhelmed, take a deep breath and leaf through this guide - it's here to help you start the process of choosing the right course and university for you. Good luck.

ILLUSTRATIONS: YUKAI DU



Contents

League table of UK universities	4	Film production and photography	29
How Imperial College climbed the ranks	7	Fine art	31
How to choose a university in 2022	10	Forensic science	31
Finding the right foundation course	11	General engineering	31
Preparing for student life: from budgeting to a spanish omelette masterclass	13	Geography	32
		Graphic design	32
		Health professions	33
		History	33
		History of art	35
		Hospitality, event management and tourism	35
		Interior design	35
		International relations	36
		Journalism	36
		Languages and linguistics	36
		Law	37
		Marketing and public relations	37
		Mathematics	38
		Mechanical engineering	38
		Media and film studies	39
		Mental health nursing	39
		Medicine	39
		Midwifery	40
		Music	40
		Nursing	41
		Nutrition and food science	41
		Paramedic science	41
		Pharmacy and pharmacology	42
		Philosophy	42
		Physics	42
		Physiotherapy	43
		Politics	43
		Product design	43
		Psychology	44
		Social work	44
		Sociology and social policy	45
		Sports science	45
		Theology and religious studies	46
		Veterinary science	46
		Zoology	46

The A-Z of subject rankings	
Accounting and finance	17
Aerospace engineering	17
Anatomy and physiology	18
Animal science and agriculture	18
Animation and game design	18
Anthropology and archaeology	19
Architecture	19
Biology	20
Biomedical science	20
Business and management	20
Chemistry	21
Chemical engineering	21
Children's nursing	22
Civil engineering	22
Classics and ancient history	22
Computer science and information systems	23
Construction, surveying and planning	23
Creative writing	25
Criminology	25
Dentistry	26
Drama and dance	26
Earth and marine sciences	26
Economics	27
Education	27
Electrical and electronic engineering	28
English	28
Fashion and textiles	29

Overall ranking of UK universities according to an exclusive Guardian formula. We base our table on all the factors that matter most to students choosing a course

University league table

2023	2022	Name of provider	Guardian score/100	% Satisfied with course	% Satisfied with teaching	% Satisfied with assessment	Student: staff ratio	Expenditure per student	Average entry tariff	Value added score/10	Career prospects	Continuation
1	3	St Andrews	100.0	91.6	91.6	77.8	11.8	7.0	200	6.6	88	98.5
2	1	Oxford	99.4				10.5	10.0	199	5.8	92	99
3	2	Cambridge	98.1				11.6	9.9	207	5.6	92	99.3
4	4	London School of Economics	95.2	78.8	82	67.2	13.4	8.7	189	7.4	92	98
5	7	Imperial College	89.3	83.1	85.8	60.6	11.7	9.0	198	5.1	95	98.2
6	5	Durham	87.0	80.7	83.9	65.6	13.7	6.5	185	6.0	88	98.5
7	8	Bath	85.8	86.1	84.6	61.1	15.4	6.2	177	5.4	90	97.5
8	6	Warwick	84.2	82.9	84.6	69.8	14.2	7.1	173	4.7	88	97.6
9	9	UCL	83.5	76.6	81.2	61.1	11.1	7.8	179	6.4	88	97.2
10	10	Loughborough	82.6	84.6	82.9	64.8	13.8	5.2	156	4.4	85	97.5
11	11	Glasgow	82.1	81.5	84	61.6	13.7	5.8	206	6.2	82	96.3
12	12	Edinburgh	81.8	72	80.6	52.4	11.5	8.9	191	6.6	85	97.7
13	20	Aberdeen	81.2	85.2	85.3	67.4	15.0	4.7	187	7.8	82	96.4
14	13	Lancaster	80.0	83.1	84.1	66.0	14.8	7.6	150	5.3	84	97.8
15	15	Exeter	76.3	79.6	82.3	62.8	16.2	3.5	161	5.7	83	96.7
16	14	Bristol	76.2	74.6	81.1	58.8	14.1	7.0	167	5.7	85	98
16	17	Southampton	76.2	79.2	82.6	66.4	12.6	5.9	155	5.3	81	96.7
16	18	Strathclyde	76.2	83.3	84.9	64.9	19.1	6.9	204	3.8	85	95
19	26	University of the Arts London	75.5	60.1	70.4	73.2	11.9	9.8	139	6.3	68	92.5
20	16	Leeds	75.1	72.6	79.4	59.6	13.8	6.9	161	5.6	83	97.8
21	18	York	75.0	78.9	82.6	65.2	15.1	5.1	150	4.0	83	98.1
22	25	Aston	74.5	75.7	78.5	62.6	17.0	5.8	133	6.1	82	96.2
23	35	West London	73.7	80.6	84.5	77.7	12.9	5.7	120	6.9	73	88.4
24	36	UWE Bristol	72.8	76.9	80.5	69.2	15.7	4.0	123	6.5	79	92.7
24	57	Surrey	72.8	82.2	83	68.6	16.0	4.9	142	3.6	86	95
26	24	Swansea	72.7	80.8	82.4	67.5	16.2	5.7	131	5.2	80	94.6
27	29	Birmingham	72.3	73.4	78.9	55.6	14.9	6.8	158	5.3	84	98
27	41	UEA	72.3	75.9	81	63.5	14.2	4.2	134	7.0	82	96.5
29	23	King's College London	72.1	72.2	78.9	59.7	13.9	7.6	163	5.2	87	96.8
30	27	Sheffield	72.0	79.1	82.9	65.6	14.9	5.0	150	4.7	82	96.8
30	28	Manchester	72.0	71.3	77.2	57.8	14.3	8.1	163	5.1	84	97.7
32	48	Keele	71.8	77.8	80.3	65.7	15.3	4.0	127	6.5	82	96.4
33	22	Royal Holloway	71.7	78.3	80.2	66.7	16.2	5.2	128	6.0	77	96.1
34	34	Lincoln	71.6	78.4	80.3	69.3	16.1	3.9	125	5.5	74	95.7
35	30	Leicester	71.4	75.8	78.6	65.0	13.7	6.0	129	5.4	79	96.8
35	38	Cardiff	71.4	74	79.4	61.2	14.5	6.6	148	4.5	85	96.1
37	21	Chichester	71.3	79.2	83.5	71.6	15.2	3.5	131	5.9	70	92
38	46	Bolton	71.2	78.4	83.3	76.3	16.4	7.3	119	4.9	70	89.5
38	58	Ulster	71.2	80.5	80.9	71.1	20.3	4.4	131	6.8	77	94.9
40	40	Liverpool	71.1	75.2	80.2	63.0	13.8	7.6	144	5.7	80	96.9
40	64	Aberystwyth	71.1	85.2	86.1	79.7	15.6	5.8	127	3.3	70	93.6
42	46	Oxford Brookes	70.8	73.1	76.4	64.6	14.0	4.8	122	4.9	78	95.6
42	64	Essex	70.8	74.7	76.4	64.6	16.0	6.5	112	7.5	76	93
44	31	Dundee	70.5	77.5	81.1	62.4	14.9	5.0	180	4.6	83	94.2
45	36	Heriot-Watt	70.4	74.7	75.3	56.5	18.0	8.4	177	5.7	80	93.6
46	41	Northumbria	70.0	70.9	75.8	68.9	15.7	4.2	135	6.5	79	92.4
46	33	Queen's, Belfast	70.0	77.2	81	62.3	15.9	4.9	149	4.9	86	96.5
48	59	Derby	69.8	77.4	81.8	75.7	15.8	6.1	122	3.9	73	92.8
49	32	University for the Creative Arts	69.7	66.9	76.7	74.5	13.8	7.2	133	7.8	59	90.2
50	92	Sunderland	69.5	76.7	80.8	73.4	15.9	6.9	125	5.6	71	90.1
51	38	Coventry	69.4	77.6	82.6	70.3	13.8	6.5	119	6.6	76	88.6
52	69	Glasgow Caledonian	69.3	78.9	79.8	67.1	22.9	2.8	170	7.0	80	93.9
53	82	South Wales	69.2	71.6	78.6	71.1	15.3	5.4	126	5.3	71	90.7
54	51	Queen Mary	69.1	74.2	78.5	60.4	14.6	5.7	145	5.9	80	97.5
55	70	Edge Hill	69.0	73.6	76.7	71.1	15.5	3.9	127	5.7	73	93.3
55	45	Kingston	69.0	73.6	78.5	71.1	17.0	5.4	121	5.5	72	92.5
55	50	Kent	69.0	74.9	79.4	64.5	17.7	4.0	124	6.5	76	95.5
58	104	City	68.8	67.5	73.6	57.0	19.4	7.4	133	7.7	81	96.6
59	53	Hull	68.7	75.8	79.3	72.1	16.2	4.5	126	5.8	78	92.9
59	49	Stirling	68.7	80.2	83.2	69.9	18.6	3.1	173	3.5	77	95.2
61	61	Reading	68.6	76.9	78.6	63.6	16.6	4.9	127	5.8	80	96.1

2023	2022	Name of provider	Guardian score/100	% Satisfied with course	% Satisfied with teaching	% Satisfied with assessment	Student: staff ratio	Expenditure per student	Average entry tariff	Value added score/10	Career prospects	Continuation
62	55	Nottingham Trent	68.4	77.5	79	71.8	15.3	4.3	123	3.5	72	94.6
63	41	Plymouth	68.2	75.2	80.2	69.0	17.3	5.1	129	6.6	79	94.5
63	55	Newcastle	68.2	68.8	76.5	56.9	14.7	5.8	148	5.1	82	97.1
63	52	Nottingham	68.2	75.2	80.5	60.2	15.8	6.5	152	4.2	85	97
66	44	Sussex	68.1	75.3	79	61.4	17.3	6.3	135	4.1	74	95.9
67	75	Portsmouth	67.8	74.7	77.9	69.4	16.8	6.7	116	5.9	75	93
68	72	Staffordshire	67.7	75	80.9	74.6	17.7	6.0	123	5.6	73	90.1
69	67	Suffolk	67.4	76.3	83.7	75.7	15.0	6.9	111	4.6	83	90.8
70	77	Bucks New University	66.9	75.9	80.2	74.2	15.4	7.8	116	4.3	71	85.7
70	104	St Mary's, Twickenham	66.9	81.4	84.8	74.3	16.0	2.3	114	6.5	73	86.1
70		Arts University Bournemouth	66.9	70.5	78.5	69.8	14.5	5.1	147	2.4	64	93.6
73	62	Cardiff Met	66.6	73.5	76.1	68.3	18.1	4.3	126	7.4	75	90.4
74	80	Chester	66.3	70.3	77.3	72.0	15.1	4.5	125	5.7	75	93.1
74	90	Hertfordshire	66.3	74.9	78.2	69.2	16.5	4.1	113	6.6	75	92.2
74	74	Trinity Saint David	66.3	74.4	80.7	75.0	21.1	4.1	131	6.4	67	87.5
77	84	York St John	66.1	77.9	82.2	75.2	18.0	3.4	114	5.8	70	91.1
78	54	Huddersfield	65.9	71.7	75.1	70.8	14.7	4.5	126	5.9	71	92.3
78	59	Sheffield Hallam	65.9	69.9	76.5	66.9	17.7	5.6	119	6.1	78	93.3
80	80	Teesside	65.6	71.7	79.3	73.4	17.1	6.0	123	5.3	80	90.6
80	79	Bradford	65.6	72.6	76.4	66.2	19.1	2.7	129	7.6	78	95.2
82	86	Bangor	65.5	77.1	80.8	71.3	15.1	3.2	123	6.3	74	90.9
83	73	Edinburgh Napier	65.3	80.6	81.9	71.2	22.1	4.3	152	7.3	78	92.4
84	62	Manchester Met	65.2	73.7	77.2	70.4	17.5	5.2	124	5.2	70	93.7
85	88	Abertay	65.1	79.9	83	73.1	24.2	1.8	153	6.7	76	90.9
86	77	SOAS	64.6	72.5	79.7	62.1	14.6	8.2	139	5.7	75	91.4
87	75	Liverpool John Moores	64.4	76	77.8	66.7	18.0	3.1	132	4.7	73	92.6
88	71	Gloucestershire	64.3	73.7	77.9	69.1	17.2	5.6	120	4.4	71	90.2
89	91	Bath Spa	64.2	74.3	79.2	73.6	16.6	5.5	125	4.6	66	92.7
89	85	Queen Margaret	64.2	77.4	82.7	69.6	21.9	1.9	162	4.7	73	92.3
89	94	Salford	64.2	69.1	75.5	68.9	17.9	3.9	125	6.7	76	91
92	102	Brighton	63.9	64.5	74	62.9	18.1	5.3	116	6.2	77	91.4
93	83	Robert Gordon	63.5	83.2	83.4	73.4	20.8	3.2	155	3.9	79	92.4
94	66	Glyndwr	63.4	75.5	84.2	81.4	24.9	2.4	113	4.4	72	89.5
95	101	Northampton	62.8	70.1	75.9	68.8	17.7		113	4.9	75	92.9
96	113	London South Bank	62.4	69.7	76	67.3	17.5	5.8	110	5.8	72	91.5
97	103	Falmouth	62.1	74.1	78.6	72.3	14.8	4.9	130	4.2	67	
98	94	Greenwich	62.0	74.5	79.1	70.3	19.5	3.4	121	5.3	75	91.5
99	97	Liverpool Hope	61.9	75.4	79.1	73.1	16.3	2.2	116	5.1	67	92.9
100	67	Birmingham City	61.6	72.6	78.5	71.8	17.2	6.7	122	2.9	74	92.2
101	97	Solent	61.3	70.9	78.8	70.3	17.5	4.0	117	5.1	68	90
102	92	Worcester	61.2	74.8	80.1	70.2	17.5	3.8	124	3.7	78	91.2
102	109	Leeds Beckett	61.2	74.6	78	70.1	21.7	3.9	113	6.6	72	91.1
104	97	Central Lancashire	61.1	68.6	76.1	70.2	16.2	5.5	126	5.0	76	90.6
104	87	London Met	61.1	81.5	84.3	78.1	22.7	5.6	102	5.9	65	88.3
106	106	Wolverhampton	60.5	71.3	79	69.9	16.5	5.9	114	6.7	71	87.4
106	107	Goldsmiths	60.5	57.1	73.7	56.8	13.9		128	7.8	70	87.6
108	89	Bournemouth	60.0	66.2	73.8	62.2	19.2	4.7	116	4.7	78	93.5
109	97	Anglia Ruskin	59.6	76.1	81.2	73.0	19.4	7.9	111	4.7	74	90.1
110	107	Winchester	59.0	73	78	68.3	18.1	3.1	117	3.4	71	93.3
111	96	Roehampton	58.9	72.8	76.4	68.8	18.3	5.7	106	5.6	68	90.3
111	112	Middlesex	58.9	69.1	73.2	68.1	17.1	5.9	112	5.7	72	87.3
113	117	Leeds Trinity	58.7	72.1	77.2	70.9	21.5	4.7	115	7.4	68	91.8
113	114	East London	58.7	72	77.8	70.2	26.2	2.9	111	6.3	69	90.9
115	110	Cumbria	57.4	69.1	76.8	68.9	18.7	4.4	122	3.7	73	91.5
116	119	Canterbury Christ Church	54.2	67.5	77.8	71.3	18.2	3.2	107	3.6	77	91.6
116	110	Westminster	54.2	71.1	73.4	62.7	19.9	3.9	116	4.5	68	92.3
116	116	Brunel	54.2	63.5	69.5	55.8	17.9	3.3	123	4.6	73	93.2
119	120	West of Scotland	53.9	73.9	77.8	68.7	23.5	3.3	143	7.0	74	87.6
120	118	De Montfort	53.4	67.2	72.1	63.5	18.5	3.1	109	4.9	72	89.6
121	121	Bedfordshire	34.6	70.9	79.8	69.4	27.4	4.0	112	2.3	73	78.8



Key to the table headings

On the left of the table you'll find this year's ranking, last year's ranking and the name of the university. On the right there are 10 columns. Here's what they mean:

Guardian score/100
A rating of excellence based on a combination of all the other factors

Satisfied with course
The rating for the overall quality of the course, given by final-year students in the latest National Student Survey (NSS)

Satisfied with teaching
The rating for the quality of teaching on the course, given by final-year students in the NSS

Feedback
The rating for the quality of feedback and assessment, given by final-year students in the NSS

Student-staff ratio
The number of students per member of teaching staff

Spend per student
Money spent on each student, excluding academic staff costs, given as a rating out of 10

Average entry tariff
Typical Ucas scores of young entrants (under 21) to the department

Value-added score
This compares students' degree results with their entry qualifications, to show how effectively they are taught. It is given as a rating out of 10

Career after six months
Percentage of graduates who find graduate-level jobs, or are in further study at professional or HE level, within six months of graduation. It reflects how good the university is at employability

Continuation rate
The percentage of first-year students continuing to the second year

Imperial College
London

The most interesting
person you'll meet here?

**YOUR
FUTURE
SELF**



At Imperial College London we're one-of-a-kind – a global top 10 university* and the only UK university to focus exclusively on science, engineering, medicine and business.

Apply now for 2023 entry
imperial.ac.uk/undergraduate

*QS World University Rankings 2023

At number five in this year's rankings, up from seven last year, Imperial's rep as the place for go-getters and entrepreneurs continues to flourish.

By Rachel Hall

THE BUSINESS OF STUDYING

Deep inside Imperial's South Kensington campus, teams of current and former students are tapping away on laptops, running businesses and sharing ideas. There's a company using sailboats to gather data to chart weather patterns, another providing AI-powered, low-cost tutoring, one with an innovative way to weigh chickens, and another dreaming up ways to hand over more power to retail investors.

This is the university's enterprise lab, the crown jewel in an institution that prides itself on blending business with the sciences. It's a major draw for students, with one in eight using the space to brainstorm their fledgling business ideas, attend workshops on entrepreneurial skills, network with other students and receive mentoring from experts and alumni. It's so successful at what it does, it has an exceptional 79% survival rate for the startups it launches.

The mixture of science and business is what makes Imperial unique, says the university's new president, Prof Hugh Brady. "Innovation and



enterprise are really part of the DNA, they're part of what attracts the students. The atmosphere is different: impact, innovation, entrepreneurship just ooze out of the institution."

Science courses typically include business and finance modules, regardless of subject, while students in the business school are drawn to the university's strength in science. A new multi-disciplinary undergraduate course in economics, finance and data science, launching this year, is generating considerable interest.

Imperial has some of the best-resourced entrepreneurship facilities in the country, including the largest mentoring system - based on the MIT model - and biggest prize fund for its lead entrepreneurial competition, the venture catalyst challenge.

Also part of this picture is the Enterprise Lab, and the companion Hack Space, where students can access equipment, such as 3D printers, to build prototypes for their ideas.

Yet Imperial has ambitious plans to grow all of this further. To help make it happen, the university has just received a Stanford-inspired founders pledge from seven alumni founders to donate a portion of their future revenue to the college to benefit budding entrepreneurs.

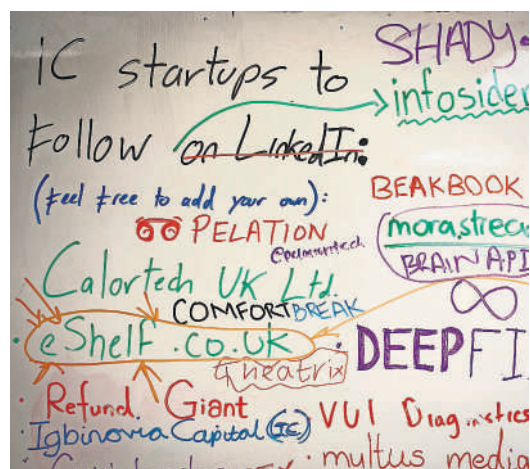
According to the vice-provost for research and enterprise, Prof Mary Ryan, this matters because it's what students - and employers recruiting them after they graduate - expect from an Imperial degree.

"There's a recognition that [for] our student body in particular, and [for] all students of this generation, there's a hunger to explore entrepreneurship and ways they could develop their own ideas while they're studying," she says.

She adds that "not just what can we learn, but what can we do with what we learn" is an ethos that is integral to the institution, with working with industry cited in its founding charter, which



Above: students at work on a carbon capture project in the department of chemical engineering; Prof Mary Ryan, above right; a student undertaking a VR project, below; left, brainstorming in the enterprise lab



dates to 1887, when it was created alongside South Kensington's world-class museums as part of Prince Albert's vision for an area of culture.

This is underpinned by the university's strength in research, something that came to the fore during the pandemic, as its multi-disciplinary Covid response team shaped how governments around the world responded to the crisis.

This has translated into an applications boost for the university, with lots of students citing the team in their applications, says the vice-provost for education and student experience, Prof Emma McCoy. "We've been seeing an increase in our application numbers over the last decade, and year-on-year. It'll be interesting to see what happens over the next couple of years."

This culture is reflected in a highly research-intensive curriculum, where students are taught by leaders in their field and are expected to generate their own knowledge. Imperial prioritises a multi-disciplinary approach, including obligatory modules in disciplines outside their undergraduate degree.

The university has enjoyed a steady rise up the rankings in recent years, rising from 9th place in 2021 to break into the top five for 2023 - something it has only done twice before since the Guardian rankings began. Graduate prospects have long been an area of strength for the university - 94.5% of the most recent cohort found their way into a graduate-level occupation within 15 months. The university ranks highest in the guide for employability, thanks to its subject mix, entrepreneurship focus and industry placements. McCoy says producing work-ready graduates is a priority, with employers appreciating how they "can hit the ground running".

The university's rise up the rankings

has been partly buoyed by an improvement in its National Student Survey results. This is the result of a five-year drive to improve the student experience, which has seen Imperial involve students more closely in shaping their education and learning environment, building an inclusive scholarly community and boosting its bursary scheme.

"It's always a challenge at a research-intensive [university] because our courses are especially challenging, which attracts the students as well," McCoy acknowledges.

Part of its attractiveness, Brady suggests, is that there is no "direct competitor" to the institution. However, he says that elements of its White City campus, which combines high-tech facilities aimed at creating the products and services of the future with community outreach, remind him of Kendall Square in Boston - which neighbours MIT - or the Stanford-Berkeley axis in California.

"When I was in the States, [in the] 1980s and 90s, the Ivy League almost woke up one day and said 'gosh, what happened, there's this new kid on the block, Stanford', which has some similar characteristics to Imperial. I think we're at that transformation [point] where students are now coming to Imperial because it is different, because they know they'll get a high-quality education that's infused with the latest research and discoveries, but with an eye on impact and innovation," he says.

Despite its popularity, there is an existential threat facing Imperial: the real-terms decline of the value of the tuition fee, which is now worth a third less than when it was increased in 2012. Brady estimates that the shortfall for Imperial's courses, which are expensive to run, averages around £4,000, a hole the university plugs through "incredibly generous donors", lucrative industry partnerships and using the higher fees paid by international students

'Imperial has enjoyed a steady rise up the rankings in recent years, from 9th place in 2021 into the top five for 2023'





to cross-subsidise courses. “The funding model doesn’t cover the costs of educating UK students, and that has to be addressed,” says Brady, adding that he and other university leaders are pressuring government to prioritise increasing state funding or raising tuition fees, or combining the two. “If there’s a critical decision for the country over the next two or three years, it is what is that funding model, and how do we build it so it’s sustainable and aligned with the Stem needs of the economy.”

This challenge is compounded by the fact that, as an international institution, Imperial is competing against US universities, which benefit from a longstanding culture of alumni endowments and philanthropy, and emerging Asian institutions, which receive far more state support.

Yet overall, Brady feels that, culturally, Imperial is in a strong position at the moment. “There’s a much wider and deeper appreciation among society of the value of science, engineering and medicine to humanity and the planet,” he says, adding, “you have government economic policy, which absolutely has Stem, innovation, entrepreneurship and digital skills central to it, and you have a skills pipeline that needs more engineers.

“You can really argue that Imperial has never been more important to the country.”

Brady took the reins in August, and his first plan is to meet as many staff and students as possible, to understand what they’re proud of and what needs to change - including an ongoing project to re-evaluate Imperial’s relationship with its colonial history.

“That’s my focus: what does the next 10-15 years look like for Imperial? How does it continue to compete with the very best universities in the world? How does it firmly establish itself as that essential catalyst for economic growth in the UK? How does it play its part in the wider global science community looking at important issues such as climate change?”

Some institutions have jumped up in the ranks this year, either overall or by performing well in particular subjects, writes *Rachel Hall*

THE UNIVERSITIES THAT ARE TURNING THE TABLES

HIGH CLIMBERS

Some universities have made massive strides this year, in certain cases because they supported their students well during the pandemic, who have rewarded them for their efforts in the National Student Survey satisfaction ratings.



High risers include **Aberdeen**, which has climbed from 20th place to 13th, thanks to performing well across a number of subjects. It has also improved its continuation rate by helping more students stay the course.

Surrey has had a rollercoaster ride in the guide over the past couple of years - it came 4th in 2017, but then fell down to 57th place in the 2022 edition, returning to 24th this year after spending more on staff and improving student satisfaction rates.

It’s a good year for **Sunderland**, too, which has jumped from 92nd to 50th, surpassing its second highest ranking of 57th in 2013. South Wales has reached its highest ever position of 53rd.



The University of West London has enjoyed a remarkable ascent from languishing in 96th place in 2017, to reach 23rd this edition. The university performed exceptionally well in the National Student Survey, likely because they were able to give their students a good education and experience despite the pandemic. The institution has also improved its graduates’ career prospects, although this remains a weaker area.

MEDICAL MARVELS

Healthcare courses are an increasingly popular choice for

students who have been inspired by the pandemic and looking for secure employment prospects. If you’re interested in training for a career in health, universities with leading healthcare courses aren’t necessarily those at the top of the overall rankings, so check the subject tables carefully. Although **Teeside** comes in 80th place overall, it’s an excellent choice for biomedical science. The university ranks fifth by keeping its students engaged with their courses - 99% continue after their first year. Students also appreciate the assessment and feedback and get good degrees



that exceed expectations. **Lincoln** comes in 34th place overall, but has rocketed to 2nd place for pharmacy, thanks to improving employment prospects for its graduates. All of its graduates get a good job or enter further study after completing the course, an impressive feat, even by the high standards set by other pharmacy courses. Students stay on this course, get good awards and then good jobs. **Coventry**, in 51st place overall, ranks sixth for general nursing, and is especially strong for mental health nursing - it tops the new ranking - and is second for children’s nursing. It’s also a brilliant choice for midwifery, ranking eighth, paramedic science, where it takes fifth place, and the broader health professions category, in eighth.



Glasgow, meanwhile, is the place for budding dentists to hone their skills. They ask for high grades, with the fifth most demanding entry standard of any department in the sector, but students think it’s worth it - they are especially happy with how

the university assesses them and provides feedback.

BUSINESS LEADERS

Business courses are extremely popular and come in all sorts of shapes and sizes, so you should read the subject profiles carefully to work out the right one for you, and check the rankings to make sure it will offer you the experience and outcomes you want.



In the first rankings for marketing and PR, **Lancaster** comes out top, with 91% of its graduates getting a good job or going into further study. Expenditure is high and students are happy - 88% are satisfied with the course overall. Every aspect of this course that we evaluate is strong - the weakest is its 95% continuation rate, which is still above that of many other universities.

Aberdeen’s leap to 11th place in business management, along with a jump to second place in accounting and finance, are a considerable part of the reason why the university has performed so well overall this year. Both subjects ask for high grades. In accounting and finance, most students (98%) remain on their courses, while 87% get a good job. The business and management course, meanwhile, is especially good at recruiting students with lower grades and helping them achieve their potential, with good jobs the reward for many, with an 81% career prospects score.



Chester has leapt to third place for its hospitality, event management and tourism course after improving its value-added scores, student satisfaction rates and recruiting students with higher grades.

It can feel overwhelming deciding which university to apply to, especially post-pandemic, but experts have a simple message: relax.

By Rachel Hall

WHERE SHOULD YOU APPLY?

You could be forgiven for feeling that there's a lot of doom and gloom around at the moment. Open a newspaper and you'll read about the cost-of-living crisis, an economic recession, and how intergenerational unfairness is making it hard for young people to start a family and buy their own homes.

All of which can lead you to feel stressed about achieving the highest grades possible at school, getting into the most competitive courses at the most selective universities, and into a graduate job with the highest salary.

But the message from experts is: relax. There are lots of different ways to be successful in life, and although the labour market and economy aren't as favourable towards graduates as they have been in the past, graduates still earn on average £10,000 more per year than those who don't go to university, and benefit from lots of other advantages, including better health and feeling more satisfied with their lives.

"Even if the job market does tighten, take comfort that through both the financial crash and the Covid pandemic, more than 75% of graduate recruitment carried on as normal," says Stephen Isherwood, chief executive of the Institute of Student Employers.

WHAT SHOULD YOU STUDY?

You might be wondering which course will set you up best for life after graduation. Isherwood says this doesn't matter as much as you might think, because the UK is unusual in that 80% of graduate employers don't care what course you studied.

Isherwood says graduate employers are usually looking for four things: good team-working abilities, problem-solving skills, enthusiasm for the role, and resilience when things get tough.

"Some career options do require specific specialisms, think engineering, which is why you shouldn't ignore your career aspirations when choosing a course. But it's most important you choose a course you'll enjoy as you are more likely to do well at it. Play to your strengths," he advises.

WHERE SHOULD YOU STUDY?

Competition for university places is fiercer than it has been in a decade. Along with a shortage of places, more UK 18-year-olds are vying for the most popular courses and institutions after they over-recruited during the pandemic.

Dan Barcroft, director of admissions at the University of Sheffield, says this doesn't mean you



shouldn't aim high - opportunities are available via clearing if you don't get accepted or miss your grades. "However, it's worth having a couple of alternatives, including naming an official insurance choice, so applicants have as many options as possible," he recommends.

Students might also want to consider whether to apply for a subject that's similar to a more popular choice - for example, law is highly competitive, but less over-subscribed subjects, such as criminology or sociology, may contain lots of the same content. All three are excellent preparations for a law conversion course, so you could end up with a job as a solicitor, whichever route you take.

"Going to university open days is a good way of finding alternative courses, if some are oversubscribed, as you can ask staff questions about their courses and see what students have gone on to do once they've graduated," recommends Barcroft.

DOES REPUTATION MATTER?

If you're wondering how important it is to go to the most selective universities, for example, in the Russell Group, a recent report by the Institute for Fiscal Studies suggested that prospective students should be "more relaxed" about where you choose to study, as degree class matters most when it comes to earning higher salaries.

The researchers found that graduates in England with first-class or upper second-class (2.1) honours degrees had higher average earnings by the age of 30 than those who finished with lower second-class (2.2) awards, regardless of institution.

Although certain employers, especially in more traditional occupations such as some elite law firms, do still favour the highest-ranking universities, Isherwood says most "employers are paying less and less attention to the university a student attended".

This means it's important to choose a university where you feel comfortable, because that's where you're most likely to get good grades.

Prof Katie Normington, vice-chancellor of De Montfort University, advises: "People have to go to the right university that suits them. That doesn't mean it's the top-ranked university for what you're studying; you may well feel the support you're going to get, or the way courses are delivered, matters more."

This is especially the case for those with specific needs, for example, if you have a disability or caring responsibilities, but it might also include people who have an extracurricular activity they're really interested in, as this can help build employability skills.

Isherwood explains: "Employers don't just look at your academic track record, they look at your potential to add value to their organisation. You might think your part-time job too menial, or the sports team you captain irrelevant, or your voluntary role trivial, but an interviewer looks to your experiences for evidence of a whole range of attributes you may possess."

WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?

This is why grades aren't always a top priority for employers. For example, to attract a more diverse range of recruits, professional services firm PwC recently dropped a long-standing requirement for its graduates to have obtained a 2:1.

Andrew Bargery, who recruits for PwC, said that announcement was the result of a shift that's been taking place for years. This is away from traditional competency-based recruitment towards trying to assess potential, in areas such as teamwork, leadership and business awareness.

As such, "the student's university and degree subject is of little importance," he says. "It's more about the application of their learning and demonstrating they have the potential to succeed." He notes, however, that gaining relevant work experience helps.

The main thing employers say they're looking for are passion and potential, especially post



'Employers don't just look at your academic track record - they look at your potential to add value to their organisation'

pandemic, as they understand that young people have had fewer opportunities to gain work experience or build skills through social activities.

Ashley Hever, who recruits for Enterprise Rent-A-Car, a top graduate employer, says students should "try not to worry" too much about their choice of university or course. "Employers today are so much more open as to where someone studied or what course they've completed."

He adds that it's more about working with the careers service, attending employment fairs and meeting potential employers, as well as building your CV through clubs, societies and leadership opportunities.

Andrew Oliva-Hauxwell, executive director for recruitment at Teach First, which runs salaried teaching-training schemes, says for a public service role it's important for graduates to demonstrate that they "truly care about our mission and are committed to working with us".

However, he adds that there are "certain non-negotiable academic thresholds" to be met - though these can be achieved at any university, with teachers recruited from 170 universities in 2021. The easiest way to get good grades is to study something you love, though he notes that if you're interested in teaching, there are shortages in science, maths, computing and modern foreign languages.

Although competition for roles is tough, graduate employers are arguably more flexible than they've ever been when choosing who they recruit.

This is why it's important that your course and university choices are guided by personal preferences.

As Barcroft advises: "Applying to university can feel overwhelming, but a good place to start is for students to really take the time to think about what is most important to them. Is it course content and reputation, or is it location and student life?"

From classics to Formula One, and from hating education to loving it, a foundation year can turn your life around, writes *Liz Lightfoot*

LAYING DOWN THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Becky Reavell was in the crowd at Silverstone watching a Formula One race with her father when it dawned on her that she didn't want to study English at university and be a journalist. What she really wanted was to study engineering for a career in motor sport.

Her sixth-form teachers were supportive, but the problem was her A-level choices. She was already deep into studying English literature, classics and economics, not maths and physics, the subjects usually required for engineering.

But she didn't give up. With her grades - A*A*A - she found a place on a studies in science foundation year course at Leeds University, which led to a three-year engineering degree. In August, she began work as a composite design engineer for a F1 team.

Foundation years are an extra preparatory year before the start of a bachelor degree and are usually linked to that course - such as BSc psychology with a foundation year. Students apply in the usual way, through Ucas, for the year plus the three- or four-year undergraduate course.

"Before the sixth form I was at a different school, an all-girls school, and I never really thought about engineering," says Becky, 25, from Essex, who has been chosen to join the Women's Engineering Society's early careers board.

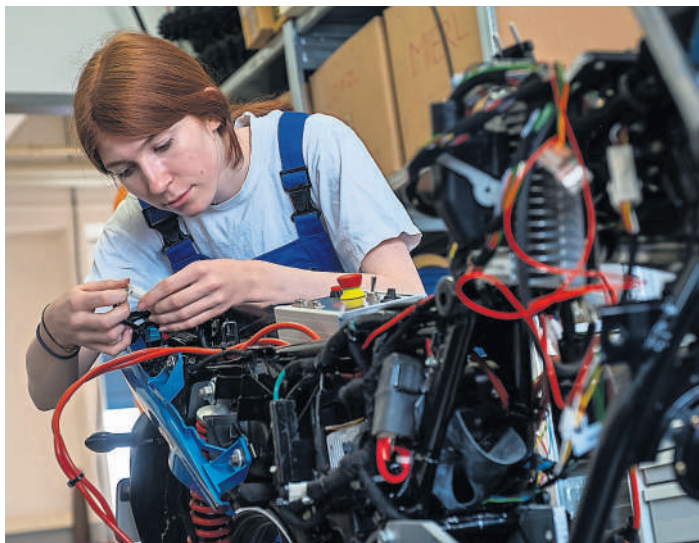
"The foundation year really helped. It was a pretty daunting thing to do as I hadn't studied maths or science since GCSEs, but the lecturers were very supportive and, even after I started my degree, they were in contact in case I needed help."

Becky was awarded a first-class BEng, automotive engineering at Leeds, then a distinction for an MSc in motor sport engineering at Oxford Brookes University.

The English exam system requires students to make subject choices at 13 for GCSEs, then again at 15 or 16 for A-levels. Now, in the wake of the pandemic, students are more likely to be re-thinking what they want to do with their lives. Others may have missed out on the grades they deserve due to family illness and bereavement or the disruption to schools.

A foundation year, which leads to a three- or four-year degree programme, opens up options for those who change subjects or miss out on the grades they need, says Ray Le Tarouilly, a National Careers Service adviser.

Below: foundation courses give hands-on experience in practical subjects, such as design engineering



"They can also be a very good bridge for mature students who have been out of education because they introduce them to university life. More universities are offering them in more subjects but entry can be competitive, especially in medicine and the biological sciences."

Most courses cost the same as a year of an undergraduate degree - £9,250 - though some universities, such as York and Manchester, offer fee reductions or bursaries for the extra year. Students are eligible for tuition fee loans and living costs in the same way as for undergraduate degrees, but it will mean higher debt, Le Tarouilly says.

"That's the downside. However, graduates won't be paying any more each month once they start work because repayments are based on income, not the level of debt," he adds.

Foundation years differ between universities. Some offer them only to "widening participation" students from disadvantaged home or school backgrounds; others offer courses as widening participation; and others as open entry.

Leeds takes background into account for its foundation years, except for its very popular studies in science year. The university describes that course as "a conversion course for applicants with strong A-levels - ABB or above - who wish to progress to a scientific discipline, but have not studied science or maths at A-level."

Science and engineering are also popular choices for foundation years at UWE Bristol, but the most competition is for places on health courses, such as nursing or art and design.

Andrew Carter, UWE's head of admissions, says some students apply directly through the normal Ucas round for a degree with a foundation year, but others go onto them because they have not achieved the required grades for their chosen undergraduate degree course.

Another group of students are those who change career direction. "There is pressure to make decisions at an early age, which could impact opportunities later in life. A foundation year opens up options for them," he adds.

There are also lots of foundation year students who missed out on education first time round, such as Hollie Baker, from Weston-super-Mare, who is studying for a BSc in computer science with a foundation year at UWE. Hollie, 24, is visually impaired and struggled at school and then, again, trying to catch up at a further education college.

"There was very little support for me. I couldn't keep up because I couldn't read the material. If anyone asked me about education, I'd say I hated it. Now I love it. UWE has changed my view of education. I want to find ways to use the technology to improve things for others like me," says Hollie, 23, who uses they/them pronouns.

It was a taster course at the University of Bristol that gave them the confidence to apply for the foundation year at UWE. "This year introduces you to university life in a more relaxed, supportive way. If you get into a panic, they say, 'Just take a breath', and help you find a solution."

Hollie says they benefited from being "eased into a degree". "A foundation year is a great opportunity because you learn all sorts of general skills and ones specific to your degree, so when you go into year one of the actual degree you don't feel you have just been dropped into it."



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

**#TakeOn
Tomorrow**

**BOOK YOUR PLACE
AT ONE OF OUR OPEN DAYS**

northumbria.ac.uk/ugopendays

THE AWARDS
2022

**SHORTLISTED FOR
UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR**

Going to uni isn't all about academic work. There are also hundreds of extracurricular activities to choose from. By *Abby Young-Powell*

GETTING A BUZZ FROM THE CLUBS

When Harriet Owen arrived at university, she made the unusual decision to join the bee-keeping society, despite having no previous knowledge. "I looked through all the societies online, saw bee-keeping and thought, 'Oh interesting, bees are cool'," she says.

Owen, 21, who studies biomaterials science at the University of Sheffield, decided to get stuck in. She's since learned to do hive checks and to spot the queen (she's much bigger) and has made wax candles and honey cakes. "Bees are so good for the environment," she says, adding: "I think they're quite cute."

Going away to university isn't all about academic work, and many students value the activities they get involved with outside their course. This could be volunteering, sports, or joining student societies.

"Not only do you meet a wide variety of people, but you gain valuable skills in leadership and teamwork, and it builds your confidence," says Iwan James, a wellbeing and sports officer at Sheffield's student union.

Going along to events and meetings can also help you settle into your new environment. "Starting university is a transition," says Paul Dodsley, student health development officer at Nottingham Trent University (NTU). "It's a great time to try new things."

Most universities will have hundreds of societies to choose from, covering academic specialisms,



From top: women's football, bee-keeping, and Dungeons & Dragons societies are among the many extracurricular activities on offer



cultural and faith-based societies, media and creative groups, and those that are hobby-based or just for fun. From knitting to Harry Potter, there will most likely be a society for every interest, as well as some you've never heard of.

Most universities will run a society fair at the beginning of the year, where you can see what's on offer and ask questions - as well as collect a few freebies.

With so much choice, it can get overwhelming, says Dominique Thompson, a GP and author of the Student Wellbeing series. Especially when many of us have had our social lives limited by pandemic restrictions. Thompson says not to worry if you can't make a decision. "I suggest people just pick two activities," she says.

"Pick one that you feel comfortable with, then, if you feel up to it, I strongly suggest that you pick one you know nothing about, but are intrigued by," she advises. "It's OK to just take little steps - you don't have to spin many plates initially. But trying new things is so important and it will help to rebuild confidence."

It's also a good idea to keep costs in mind. The skiing society is likely to be more expensive than the cake-making club, for example.

While it's probably not wise to choose your university entirely based on its extracurricular activities, it is something to take into account when weighing up your options. And especially if there's something you're really passionate about - such as a thriving theatre scene or a topflight sports team.

"I got into both Nottingham and Nottingham Trent universities," says Benedict Wills, president of Nottingham Trent's student union. "I saw there was more social activity on offer at NTU [and chose to go there]. So it's important to take this into consideration as it's three whole years that you'll be there."

Getting involved in extracurricular activities can also impress future employers.

"All the skills you gain can really help your CV," says Maisy Neale, 21, president of the LGBTQ+ society at Birmingham City University (BCU).

Regardless, it's always a good idea to give things a go. "It's something interesting you can say you were involved in," says Owen, who has found the bee-keeping society to be a highlight of her university experience. "It's something a bit unique you can talk about."

There's also no pressure to go to every social possible. As Owen explains: "For example, if you join the bee-keeping society you don't have to go in the hive, if you don't want to. You can just come along and eat honey cake."

Five weird and wonderful student societies



Assassins' Guild, various universities. Members take part in mock assassinations across the city or university and are assigned targets to "kill" with pretend weapons, such as water pistols or cardboard knives. Each player is also a target themselves.

Students of a Jane Austen Persuasion, University of Glasgow. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a student going to uni will be in want of a good society - and this one doesn't disappoint. It runs events throughout the year, from book groups to bonnet making, as well as trips to Regency houses and film sets. If you're a Mr Darcy fan, this might be the one for you.



Swift Soc, the University of Lincoln. A society that's all about a shared appreciation of Taylor Swift. Open to both hardcore and casual Swift fans - known as "Swifties" - they organise listening parties, singalongs and film nights.

Jailbreak Society, various universities. As part of a charity event, groups of players must get as far away from "jail" - the university campus - as possible within 36 hours. In previous years, some students even made it as far as New York.



Ghost Hunting Society, University of East Anglia (UEA). Described as "a society for students who need a little bit more of the strange and bizarre in their lives", members go on trips to haunted locations to look for evidence of the undead. The society also organises spooky film nights for the less adventurous.





From bank accounts and discount cards to part-time jobs, here's how to stay on top of your finances while you study. By *Jess Clark*

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR STUDENT BUDGET



Being skint has long been a part of the student experience, but with the cost of living crisis squeezing finances, young people preparing for university are more worried about budgeting than in previous years.

According to the latest research by student discount scheme Unidays, 40% of Gen Z students depend on parental support and loans, with this generation "hit hard" by the current crisis. A survey by Save the Student showed that 76% of undergraduates were worried about making ends meet last year, with the figure expected to rise as prices continue to increase.

Mhairi Underwood at online forum The Student Room said: "With the rise in the cost of living, we're noticing students' questions around their financial situation and preparedness to manage it have taken on an additional layer of concern."

She added: "Many don't feel equipped with the knowledge and skills they'll need to keep themselves financially healthy."

So how should you start getting ready to budget at university?

BANK ACCOUNTS

Getting the right bank account plays a key part. Many would argue that an important requirement is to find an account with the biggest and longest 0% interest overdraft. You shouldn't be borrowing to cover daily living costs, but an interest-free overdraft can help with unexpected expenses. Never go above your overdraft limit or you could be hit with hefty charges.

When selecting an account provider, check how long the overdraft remains interest-free after you graduate, and how much you'll be expected to repay if you haven't cleared your debt by then.

Many student accounts come with extra freebies, so it's worth looking at what each bank is offering.

For example, Santander is offering an interest-free arranged overdraft of £1,500 in years one to three, £1,800 in year four, and £2,000 if you stay on to year five, plus a free, four-year 16-25 railcard.

You typically need a university offer before you can open a student bank account, so have a look a bit nearer the time to get an idea of the best deals.

DEALS AND DISCOUNTS

Being a student unlocks many discounts, giving you money off at shops, cinemas, theatres and galleries.

Students can buy a Totum card - the renamed NUS extra card - which offers discounts including 10% off at the Co-op and fashion site Boohoo.

It costs £14.99 for a year for the full-blown card, or £24.99 for three years. Check out the

Being a student unlocks many deals at shops, cinemas, galleries and theatres - with up to 60% off for uni essentials

discounts before you sign up to ensure there are special offers you will actually use.

Unidays is a free online platform offering students deals and discounts such as (at the time of writing) up to 50% off at Asos, and up to 60% off uni essentials at Debenhams. You can also currently get six months of Amazon Prime Student for free, then pay £3.99 a month afterwards.

Jake Butler, operations director at Save the Student, said: "If you shop somewhere that doesn't promote a discount, don't be afraid to ask either, and always remember the golden rule: just because a place offers a student discount doesn't always mean it will be cheaper than elsewhere."

BUDGETING

Leaving home and managing your own money for the first time can feel daunting, but setting a budget will help you keep on top of your finances.

Butler said: "If you don't have a handle on where your money is going out or coming in, you can't make the changes you need to stay afloat financially."

Your student loan will come in as a lump sum every term, and you'll need to make sure it covers your essential costs such as rent, food, bills, transport and insurance, as well as going out.

Which? has a student budget calculator that lets you get a monthly breakdown of roughly how much you will need to live on while at university.

GETTING A JOB

Even with all the extra help available, you might find you need to get a job, although your ability to do this depends on the time pressures of your academic course.

Look for work on campus, such as at the union bar or shop, as these jobs may be easier to fit in around your studies. If you currently have part-time work, you might be able to get transferred if the company has an outlet in your university town.

If you're too busy to commit to a job in term time, search for temporary contracts over the Christmas and summer breaks. Shops need extra staff during the festive period, and the summer holidays are a busy time for bars, restaurants and family attractions.

BURSARIES, SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND HARDSHIP FUNDS

Many universities have bursaries to help students who might otherwise struggle to afford higher education, or scholarships to recognise academic achievements and other talents. These are separate from your student loan and do not have to be paid back.

The amount of money available and the eligibility criteria varies across institutions and courses, and many of them are targeted at students from low-income households.

When you are deciding which universities to apply for, check whether they offer a bursary or scholarship that you may be entitled to.

For example, the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) offers up to £4,000 a year for home students from low-income backgrounds, while University of Liverpool students can get a bursary - such as a cash grant or fee waiver - of up to £2,000 a year.

You may also be able to apply for grants to help with your studies. For example, disabled students and those with children are eligible for extra support from the government.

If you do get into financial difficulty at university, contact the welfare team to find out what help is available.

"It's better to speak out earlier if you're finding things hard, and the university may have extra support you can access or apply for," said Grace Etheridge at The Student Room.

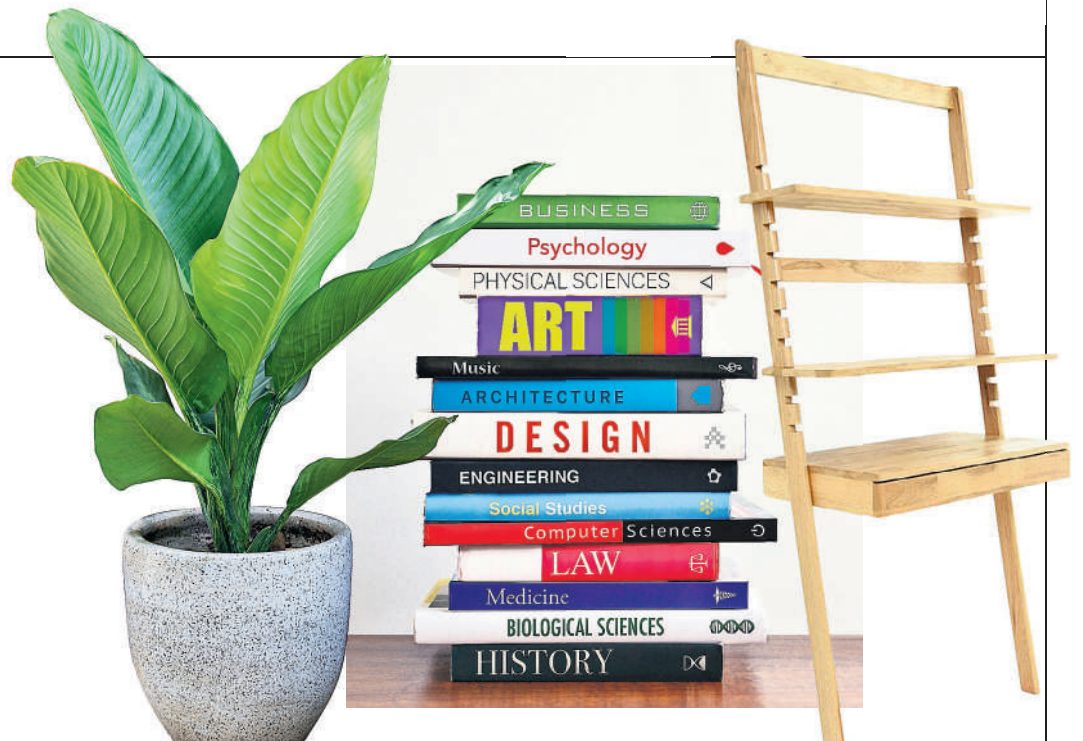
"Remember, budgeting is a challenge and it can be difficult to know where to start when money feels tight, so there's no shame in asking for some advice when you need it."



A HOME FROM HOME



With a little imagination and a practical touch, you can make your student accommodation feel comforting and familiar, says resident style expert *Morwenna Ferrier*



Regardless of where you spend your first semester - halls, student housing, or at home - you'll be surprised how much time you spend in your own room. School is an all-day affair; at university, the days are more fractured, so the onus to study (or whatever you came to university to do) is on you.

Expect a lot of down time in your room. Your bedroom is your sanctuary, but unless you're in shared housing or staying at home, it's also your only personal space, so treat it like a mini home.

Here's how I made mine feel like home.

WORK AT A DESK

Most rooms in halls come with a desk, but private options won't necessarily. So check. Even if you don't study here (and I recommend utilising the library to mark the division between work and play), imagine this table is multipurpose - good for applying makeup, FaceTime, or cramming. If you have space, try a leaning desk. It's like a ladder, with shelves, one of which will fit your laptop, and you can get them at Habitat or Ikea or, like me, from Gumtree. You can move it around, too, which is good if you plan to change rooms.

SOMEWHERE TO SIT

You might want to change your chair, too. Go for something light (search for anything inspired by Robin Day) or cheap, that folds up. Failing that, a storage bench seat (inside which you can store jumpers) does the job.

SHELVES FOR STORING

It's worth trying to divide your room into different areas. If you can, get hold of any portable shelving units (Vinted and Gumtree and Ikea's infamous Kallax range are great), that are good for storing clothes and making your bedroom seem much bigger than it is.

PUT YOUR BOOKS ON SHOW

Books can be very comforting, even if your degree is centred around spending half your loan on them. It's unusual to find a room with bookshelves, though, so I made my own temporary ones. It's a bit weird, but bear with me: you need some planks of wood and some bricks. Stack six or seven bricks on the floor the width of the plank of wood. Place the plank on top. Repeat. Temporary bookshelves! Failing that, just stack them in piles on the floor (something I also did).

AND YOUR CLOTHES

Hanging your clothes on an extendable clothing rail can liven up your room. John

Simple touches such as plants, shelving, clothes rails, framed posters and a stack of vintage suitcases can transform the most basic student digs into a mini-home



Lewis does good stainless steel ones which come in different sizes, and sometimes have wheels (and they help divide up the space in your room). Don't scrimp on hangers, you'll ruin your clothes! If space is an issue, try a clothes ladder - basically with one or two rails over which you toss your stuff, keeping it off the floor and less creased.

MAKE IT FEEL LIVED IN

Most halls tend to be modern, and if there's one thing that improves a new build it's old stuff. I had some old suitcases I'd stack up as a sort of nightstand. It's also a good way to turn your suitcases into a feature rather than trying to store them. Vinted does lovely knick-knacks (candlesticks, coloured glass storage pots for incense, old pots for pens and makeup brushes) and it's worth scattering these around surfaces, to make the space feel more loved. Consider swapping around lampshades to add personality to identikit rooms.

COVER YOUR WALLS

I really wouldn't bother hanging frames on walls - when you leave, you'll have to plaster them over and not all universities allow this. I had a bunch of old posters framed for my birthday and simply leant them on walls and surfaces. Alternatively, use command strips. Get some plants - new or artificial, it doesn't matter. Put them within eye line and it will lift the place. If your halls are really strict, use pegs to attach pictures to a string or ribbon and suspend this across the room.

PUT AWAY YOUR SHOES

Get a shoe bench. I know it sounds mad, especially if your room is small, but it's not unusual to return from a tutorial, go straight to your room, and flop onto your bed. So you want to keep your floor clean and uncluttered. I'm not sure I hoovered my room once in my first year, so let me just say I learned the hard way.

From travel freebies to cocktail nights, students share their hard-won advice on how to budget.

By *Rachel Hall* and *Alfie Packham*

TOP TIPS FROM STUDENTS ON MAKING ENDS MEET



Wait before buying the recommended reading. Get the previous editions from the library early and work out which books the lecturers refer to. If necessary, look for them second hand.

Laurie Butler, Lancaster University, 2021



Get on every possible society email distribution list. You can probably eat and pregame for free at least a few times a week. Wine and cheese nights, cocktail nights, anything...

Ella Raff, University of Cambridge, 2015



Work out whenever the nearest branch of your local supermarket puts all its reduced stickers on things - it's often at the same time every evening.

Iain Walsh, Manchester University, 2006



To save on paying for the TV licence or Netflix, find out if your uni offers access to Learning on Screen. You can watch many shows and stuff on TV for free while a student.

Silja Wiedeking, University of Kent, 2018



As soon as you get your money, set aside bills and rent. Allocate yourself £20-£40 a week to live on. I utilise Monzo's pots, but you can use paper money and envelopes.

Lydia Cline, University of Southampton, 2019



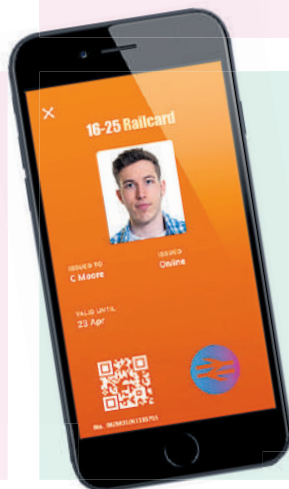
Apps such as Too Good To Go, Karma and Olio are excellent for scraps. While hospitality work often comes with a free meal mid-shift.

George Dilks, University of West England, 2019



Buy a railcard and/or a coach card. It will save you so much money in the long run and usually allows you to get freebies as well.

Tom Stevens, Swansea University student



Felicity Cloake Masterclass: Spanish omelette



As we all discovered during lockdown, eggs are extremely versatile and a complete protein source. This classic recipe from the the Guardian's resident perfectionist makes them go further in a recipe that is almost as delicious cold in a sandwich as it is warm from the pan.

**Prep 15 mins
Cook 50 mins
Serves 4 as a meal, 8 as tapas**

**1 medium onion (optional)
300ml olive oil
Salt and pepper
600g potatoes, preferably a waxy variety
6 medium eggs, beaten
2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil**

1 Onions, or no onions?

Start by peeling and finely slicing the onion, if using - many Spaniards prefer their tortillas without. You could also use spring onions, chives or even shop-bought, Asian crispy fried shallots; if so, chop and add any of those to the egg mixture in step 5 - no need to cook them first.

2 Soften the onion

Heat the oil in a large frying pan over a medium-low flame, add the onion and a pinch of salt, stir to coat with the oil, and cook gently for 20 minutes.

3 Now for the spuds

Meanwhile, peel and thinly slice the potatoes. You could even use 100g of thick-cut, ready-salted crisps instead of potatoes - just add them straight to the eggs in step 5.

4 Sweat the potatoes

Rinse the potato slices in cold water, then pat dry before adding to the onion pan. Cook until the potatoes are soft and on the verge of falling apart.

5 Finish the tortilla mix

Drain the contents of the pan and leave to cool. Crack the eggs into a bowl, beat well, season, then add the cooked onions and potatoes (or crisps). Leave to stand for 10 minutes.

6 Start to cook the tortilla

Put a smaller frying pan over a medium heat and add the extra-virgin olive oil. Swirl the pan to coat it all over with oil. Once hot, add the egg and potato mixture.

7 Don't touch the tortilla

Leave the tortilla to cook until the edges start to come away from the pan and it looks two-thirds set. Loosen all around the edge with a spatula, then carefully, and wearing oven gloves, put a lipped plate on top and flip the pan over. Slide the inverted tortilla and any liquid egg back into the pan.

8 Finishing touches

Continue to cook until the tortilla is springy to the touch. To enjoy the best flavour, leave to cool to at least warm before serving.



Subject tables

Accounting and finance



All-encompassing study of the standards and methods involved in recording financial information

Accountants are the backbone of the financial world: they are numerate, articulate and understand how companies work. An accountant's advice can sway how bosses make important decisions.

Some Russell Group universities require maths at A-level. Business studies and economics should also help.

To work as a chartered accountant after graduation you will need to study for exams set by major professional bodies.

As well as working in professional accountancy, graduates can find roles in management consultancy, investment banking and financial management. There are lots of opportunities at the big four accountancy firms (Deloitte, Ernst & Young, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers), smaller companies, and the public sector.

Rankings

1.	London School of Economics	100
2.	Warwick	93.9
2.	Aberdeen	93.9
4.	Edinburgh	91.5
5.	Bath	91
6.	Glasgow	90
7.	Bangor	89
8.	Durham	88.6
9.	Leeds	88.5
10.	Strathclyde	88.1
11.	UCL	87.1
12.	Aberystwyth	86.6
13.	Exeter	86.3
14.	UEA	83.9
15.	Lancaster	83.7
16.	Liverpool	83.3
17.	Manchester	83.2
18.	Birmingham	82.5
19.	Liverpool John Moores	81.9
19.	Bolton	81.9
21.	Ulster	81.2
22.	West London	80.8
23.	Reading	79.9
23.	Cardiff	79.9
23.	Dundee	79.9
26.	Loughborough	79.2
27.	London South Bank	78.9
28.	Southampton	77.9
29.	Bristol	77.5
30.	City	76.8
31.	Newcastle	76.6

32.	Kent	75.6
33.	Heriot-Watt	75.4
34.	Royal Holloway	74.8
35.	Sunderland	74.3
36.	Cardiff Met	74.2
36.	Glasgow Caledonian	74.2
36.	Nottingham	74.2
39.	Sheffield	73.6
40.	Surrey	73.3
40.	Huddersfield	73.3
42.	Chester	73.1
42.	South Wales	73.1
44.	Nottingham Trent	72.5
45.	Sussex	72.4
46.	Aston	71.9
46.	Essex	71.9
48.	Northumbria	71.2
48.	Portsmouth	71.2
50.	Worcester	70.8
51.	Coventry	70.5
52.	Gloucestershire	70.1
53.	Plymouth	70
54.	Queen's, Belfast	69.9
54.	Queen Mary	69.9
56.	Brighton	69.4
57.	Roehampton	68.7
58.	Staffordshire	68.5
59.	Northampton	68.4
60.	Lincoln	68.2
60.	Swansea	68.2
62.	Stirling	67.8
63.	Keele	67.3
63.	Leicester	67.3
63.	Hull	67.3
66.	Greenwich	67.1
66.	Teesside	67.1
68.	Hertfordshire	66.8
69.	Kingston	66.2
70.	De Montfort	66.1
71.	Liverpool Hope	65.5
71.	Bucks New University	65.5
73.	East London	65.3
73.	Derby	65.3
73.	Oxford Brookes	65.3
76.	Anglia Ruskin	64.8
77.	Edge Hill	64.7
78.	Bournemouth	64.5
79.	UWE Bristol	62.9
80.	Robert Gordon	62.7
80.	Winchester	62.7
82.	Birmingham City	62.2
83.	York St John	61.9
84.	Sheffield Hallam	61.1
85.	Leeds Beckett	60.3
86.	Wolverhampton	60.1
87.	Salford	59.5
88.	Bradford	59.4
89.	Manchester Met	57.1
90.	Middlesex	57
90.	London Met	57
92.	Bedfordshire	54.4
93.	Westminster	54.3
94.	Brunel	53.7
95.	Solent	53.5
96.	Canterbury Christ Church	52.5
97.	West of Scotland	46.8
98.	Edinburgh Napier	41.3
99.	Central Lancashire	35.9

Aerospace engineering

Exploring aircraft design, flight mechanics and testing aerospace vehicles. Plus: aviation studies

Aerospace engineering explores the design, analysis and testing of aeronautical and aerospace vehicles. You will study aircraft design, flight mechanics and fluid dynamics, as well as reliability, safety and airworthiness. It will also include aviation studies.

Applicants are expected to have three A-Levels with science, maths or physics. IT, computing, design technology and further maths are also helpful subjects.

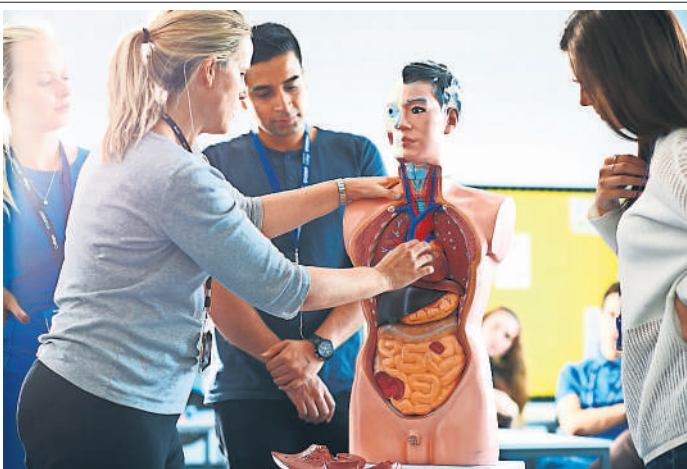
Most graduates stick to working for construction companies as an engineer. Others work in management or for companies such as Airbus or Rolls-Royce from the aircraft engine side. Working in finance or for start-ups is another option, as graduates have good analytical skills. You'll be highly skilled and these are all well-paid careers.

Rankings

1.	Imperial College	100
2.	Bristol	91.1
3.	Bath	86.2
4.	Leeds	83.3
5.	Southampton	82.7
6.	Sheffield	81.3
7.	UWE Bristol	80.8
8.	Loughborough	78.8
9.	Coventry	75.9
10.	Brunel	68.4
11.	Glasgow	66.6
12.	South Wales	64.3
13.	Swansea	63.3
14.	Birmingham	60.9
15.	Surrey	57.8
16.	Sheffield Hallam	57.2
16.	Teesside	57.2
18.	Nottingham	56.8
18.	Manchester	56.8
20.	Liverpool	56.6
21.	Salford	55.3
22.	Queen's, Belfast	54.4
23.	Staffordshire	52.8
23.	Brighton	52.8
25.	City	51.4
26.	Hertfordshire	47.5
27.	De Montfort	46.1
28.	West of Scotland	45.5
29.	Kingston	43.9
30.	Middlesex	39.5
31.	Wolverhampton	31.7



Anatomy and physiology



Learn how the human body works - includes anatomy, physiology and pathology, and aural and oral sciences

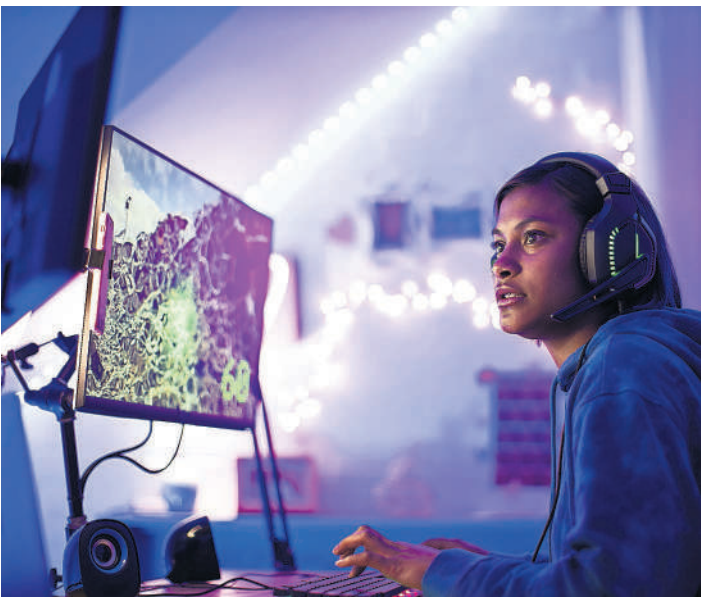
If you want to get under the skin of the human body and delve into the functioning of everything from the skeletal structure to the nervous system, an anatomy or physiology degree might be for you. You could learn

how cells develop, how limbs form in the right places, even how muscle groups are used in different sports. You may touch on hot topics such as cell cloning, genetic engineering or the impact of malaria or HIV on a human being. Many universities will ask for at least two A-Levels (or equivalent) in biology, chemistry, physics or maths. Psychology may also be desirable. Many graduates work as physiotherapists, or in fields

such as cardiology, audiology, neurophysiology, or speech and language therapy. Others undertake further study, sometimes in medicine or dentistry. If you love the academic side, a career in scientific research could be right up your street. This will require extra study, but you'll be able to specialise in an area of particular interest. This doesn't always mean you need to stay in a university - pharmaceutical companies, charities and government departments need researchers, too.

Rankings

1.	St Andrews	100
2.	Edinburgh	88.4
3.	Glasgow	86.7
4.	Aston	84
5.	Essex	79.4
6.	Newcastle	77.5
7.	Portsmouth	77.4
8.	Manchester	76.4
9.	Swansea	75.8
10.	Keele	74.9
11.	Bristol	74.7
12.	King's College London	72.6
13.	Queen's, Belfast	72.2
14.	Loughborough	70.2
15.	Liverpool	68.1
16.	Manchester Met	67.9
17.	UWE Bristol	61.6
18.	Sussex	56.5
19.	Leeds	55.8
20.	Central Lancashire	52.9
21.	De Montfort	46.9
22.	Ulster	35.6



Animation and game design

Learn how to design, write and engineer interactive experiences. Includes 2D, 3D and stop motion

There is a difference between an artist, an animator and a designer, so make sure you understand what this is. Think of an artist like a sculptor - they make the models. An animator makes models move and a designer authors the interactive experience. In game design, this could involve deciding how much damage an ork does with a fireball in a forest at midnight. Studying animation helps students find which part of the process they love the most, and to develop a body of work that will land them their first job. Most courses cover 2D, 3D, compositing and stop motion.

While many universities would like to see maths and computing on the list of qualifications, to help with the coding and programming elements of a games design course, they are not essential. For animation, some universities require a portfolio of creative design work at interview. There is a lot of money in the games industry and lots of jobs available, though they can be competitive. There are amazing careers to be had in game design, mobile games, user-experience apps or chat boxes for companies, and the film industry. It also has transferability. For example, designers are sought after by big banks to write software. For animation, many graduates end up in animation companies or other digital roles.

Rankings

1.	Hertfordshire	100
2.	UWE Bristol	95.4
3.	Manchester Met	94.5
4.	University of the Arts London	92.1
5.	Birmingham City	90.7
6.	Glasgow Caledonian	89.4
7.	Bolton	87.4
8.	Nottingham Trent	86
9.	Bucks New University	83
10.	Brunel	81.1
11.	Hull	78.7
12.	Edge Hill	78.1
13.	Teesside	76.4
14.	Kingston	76.1
15.	Derby	74.6
16.	Sheffield Hallam	73.6
17.	Staffordshire	72.9
18.	Arts University Bournemouth	71.3
19.	Salford	71.2
20.	Liverpool John Moores	70.7
21.	Abertay	70.6
22.	Portsmouth	70.5
23.	Canterbury Christ Church	69.5
24.	Wolverhampton	68.2
25.	Lincoln	66.6
26.	Middlesex	66.1
27.	Central Lancashire	65.7
28.	South Wales	64.7
29.	Cardiff Met	60.9
30.	Bournemouth	57.3
31.	West of Scotland	57.2
31.	Gloucestershire	57.2
33.	Norwich University of the Arts	56.9
34.	Solent	56.6
35.	Brighton	55.3
36.	Northampton	53.6
36.	Leeds Beckett	53.6
38.	Westminster	53.5
39.	University for the Creative Arts	52
40.	Suffolk	51.7
41.	York St John	49.6
42.	Anglia Ruskin	43.4
43.	De Montfort	42.8
44.	East London	34.4

Animal science and agriculture

The study of land-based industries, such as farming, countryside management and animal rearing

Agriculture may date back to the bronze age, but food production is as relevant today as it has ever been, with issues including food security, sustainability, food poverty and even synthetically manufactured meat among the most pressing of our time. How can agricultural systems adapt to the climate crisis? How can the competing demands of food supply and environmental sustainability be achieved? What is the position of UK agriculture in world production and food supply? These are the questions you'll gain insight to with this degree. Animal science focuses on the health and care of managed animals. You will study livestock, companion, zoo and lab animals. You can expect animal-handling experience



from the get-go. Some courses prefer one or more A-levels (or equivalent) in science. Other relevant subjects include biology, geography, environmental sciences, maths and economics. More competitive courses will want you to prove your enthusiasm through, for example, membership of a local conservation group. The UK farming industry regularly appears to be in crisis, but government strategies

aimed at attracting the next generation mean there should be plenty of opportunities for fresh graduates. Many will find themselves working in farm management, research and advisory work. Those with an interest in sales and marketing could land roles dealing with agricultural products, such as animal feed or fertiliser.

Rankings

1.	Aberystwyth	100
2.	Queen's, Belfast	99.4
3.	Royal Veterinary College	98
4.	Lincoln	96.5
5.	Nottingham	87.5
6.	Newcastle	86.5
7.	Harper Adams	85.1
7.	Writtle UC	85.1
9.	Reading	82.3
10.	SRUC	78.1
11.	Greenwich	73.7
12.	Cumbria	67.8
13.	Nottingham Trent	65.8
14.	Hartpury	60.2
15.	Royal Agricultural University	58.1
16.	Plymouth	55.2
17.	Chester	39.3

Anthropology and archaeology

The study of what it is to be human and learning from the past through physical remains. Expect field trips

There is a real explosion of anthropological-based skills in the commercial sector.

Companies in Silicon Valley, Lego in Denmark and Google are using anthropologists for market and design research. Ethnography, where people live with others and find out how they behave, is said to be all the rage for multinational companies.

Entry requirements depend on course content. For anthropology, if your course includes biological anthropology, you may need an A-level (or equivalent) in biology. Geography, history, sociology or science subjects are useful, too.

Jobs in archaeology can be hard to find, and subject to short-term funding. But the persistence you've spent three years developing should pay off. Graduates could use their skills working as guides, curators or conservators in museums or at heritage sites, or in landscape management or consultancy.

Anthropology graduates find places in design research, user experience, social research in think tanks and in government. Your in-depth knowledge of

human societies and cultures should stand you in good stead.

Careers directly related to anthropology include those in conservation, health, heritage and international development. You would also be equipped to apply for work in the voluntary sector, as a charity fundraiser or an overseas development worker.

Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	97.9
3.	London School of Economics	82.7
4.	St Andrews	74.1
5.	UCL	73.5
6.	Aberdeen	71.1
7.	Durham	70.4
8.	Sheffield	69.8
9.	Birmingham	68.3
10.	Reading	67
11.	Newcastle	66.2
12.	Liverpool	65.6
13.	Southampton	65.3
14.	Exeter	64.4
15.	York	60
16.	Kent	59.9
17.	Edinburgh	58.8
18.	Central Lancashire	57.4
19.	Oxford Brookes	55.9
20.	Manchester	55.3
21.	Cardiff	55.1
22.	Sussex	47
23.	Bristol	42.8
24.	Goldsmiths	41.2
25.	SOAS	39.1
26.	Bournemouth	36.8
27.	Winchester	31.2



Architecture

Understand the creation of buildings, drawing on the sciences, humanities, and fine and applied arts

Do you dream of designing your own home? Or planning the future of an entire town? Or following in the footsteps of the latest Pritzker prize winners, Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara? An architecture course could help you achieve these dreams.

Architecture is a wide-ranging discipline that touches on many subjects, including history, law, IT, technology and management. It also has a hefty design element: you'll learn how to draw technically and master key engineering principles.

You'll explore housing design and urban planning, and look at how communities are shaped and developed. You'll learn about concepts such as regeneration and sustainability.

It's useful to have A-levels in art, physics, design and technology, and maths.

An architecture degree, or a building and planning degree, takes three years to complete, but becoming qualified as an architect will take you longer.

After the undergraduate course and a year in industry,

students who want to qualify as architects return to university to take a further two-year course (a BArch, diploma or an MArch).

If after your initial three-year degree you're keen to try something new, there are plenty of options. It is also possible to qualify as an architect through an apprenticeship.

You could put what you've learned to good use in local or national town and country planning departments, in other areas of the construction industry, in project management, or in the conservation and environmental sector.

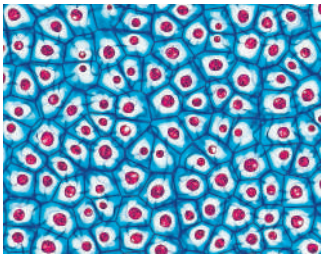
Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Leeds	84.3
3.	Edinburgh	83.6
4.	UCL	79.8
5.	Sheffield	79.3
5.	Cardiff	79.3
7.	UWE Bristol	78.9
8.	Queen's, Belfast	77.4
9.	Liverpool	76.8
10.	Oxford Brookes	76
11.	Kingston	75.9
12.	Plymouth	75.1
13.	Bath	74.5
14.	Cardiff Met	73.2
15.	University for the Creative Arts	72.2
16.	Nottingham	72.1
17.	Coventry	69.7
18.	Strathclyde	69.3
19.	Solent	68.2

20.	Manchester School of Architecture	67.8
21.	Newcastle	66.4
22.	Arts University Bournemouth	64.3
23.	Dundee	64.2
24.	Nottingham Trent	62.6
25.	Ulster	62.5
26.	Wolverhampton	60.9
27.	University of the Arts London	60.2
28.	Northumbria	58.7
29.	Leeds Beckett	58.3
30.	Kent	57.2
31.	Glasgow School of Art	56.7
32.	London Met	56.1
33.	Greenwich	54.6
34.	Robert Gordon	54.3
35.	Norwich University of the Arts	54.2
36.	Salford	53.4
37.	Sheffield Hallam	53.2
37.	Birmingham City	53.2
39.	Westminster	51
40.	Portsmouth	50.9
41.	East London	50.7
42.	Hertfordshire	48.7
43.	London South Bank	48.6
44.	Central Lancashire	47.7
45.	Lincoln	47.4
46.	Liverpool John Moores	47.3
47.	Brighton	46.7
48.	Reading	45.9
49.	Derby	42.6
50.	Huddersfield	39.1
51.	Edinburgh Napier	34.6
52.	De Montfort	32.6
53.	Anglia Ruskin	30.7



Biology



Study of living organisms and the science behind life. Includes nutrition, zoology, genetics and microbiology

The biosciences are a wide field, including human biology, bioinformatics, botany, zoology, genetics, microbiology and biochemistry. What you'll learn depends on how you decide to specialise. Most universities expect biology at A-level or equivalent; sometimes chemistry. Lots of jobs are suited to biology graduates, but if you want to work as a scientist, you'll need to do postgraduate study. If you want to specialise, your degree should give you the skills to turn your hand to forensic science, immunology and toxicology, to name but a few. You could then find research posts in the public and private sector. Many biology graduates end up in the health and social care sector, and in education.

Rankings		
1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	97.3
3.	Durham	90.7
4.	Glasgow	90.4
5.	St Andrews	90.2
6.	UCL	89.2
7.	York	85.2
8.	Imperial College	84.7
9.	Warwick	83.8
10.	Edinburgh	82.4
11.	Bristol	82.2
12.	King's College London	82
13.	Lincoln	80.8
14.	Lancaster	80.2
15.	Bath	79
16.	Manchester	78.7
16.	Royal Veterinary College	78.7
18.	Edge Hill	78.6
19.	Exeter	78.2
20.	Swansea	76.7
21.	Essex	76.3
22.	Ulster	75.7
23.	Birmingham	75
24.	Aston	74.9
25.	Stirling	74.4
26.	Liverpool	74
26.	Portsmouth	74
28.	Aberystwyth	73.6
28.	Loughborough	73.6
30.	Hertfordshire	73.4
31.	Queen's, Belfast	72.7
32.	Sheffield	72.6
33.	Surrey	71.7
34.	Greenwich	71.2
35.	Leeds	70.9
35.	Oxford Brookes	70.9
37.	Dundee	70.8
37.	Gloucestershire	70.8
37.	Heriot-Watt	70.8
37.	Royal Holloway	70.8

41.	UEA	70.4
42.	Nottingham	69.9
42.	Strathclyde	69.9
44.	Staffordshire	68.9
45.	South Wales	68.7
46.	West of Scotland	67.7
47.	Keele	67.2
48.	Edinburgh Napier	66.5
49.	Nottingham Trent	66.2
50.	UWE Bristol	66
51.	Aberdeen	65.9
51.	Plymouth	65.9
53.	Hull	65.3
54.	Southampton	65.2
55.	Leicester	64.5
56.	Cardiff	64.4
56.	Chester	64.4
58.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	64.1
59.	Sussex	63.7
60.	Kent	62.9
61.	Brighton	62.2
62.	Salford	61.2
63.	Huddersfield	59.2
63.	Newcastle	59.2
65.	Worcester	59.1
66.	Kingston	58.4
66.	Queen Mary	58.4
68.	Westminster	57.4
69.	Reading	56.3
70.	Manchester Met	55.6
70.	Sheffield Hallam	55.6
72.	Glasgow Caledonian	55.2
73.	Northumbria	53.7
74.	Bournemouth	52.8
75.	Bangor	51.9
76.	Wolverhampton	49.2
77.	Northampton	49
78.	Canterbury	
	Christ Church	48.1
79.	Middlesex	47.6
80.	Liverpool Hope	46.6
81.	Roehampton	46
82.	Anglia Ruskin	44
83.	Bath Spa	43.8
84.	Brunel	43.3
85.	Coventry	43.2
86.	London	
	South Bank	38.8
87.	Derby	38.6
88.	Bedfordshire	35
89.	Cumbria	33.7

Business and management

Understand organisations' accounting, marketing, HR management and administrative functions

Business and management degrees focus on how organisations operate - their business strategies and styles of management. Marketing is the art of communicating with customers, drawing on psychology, sociology, marketing and politics to promote the value of a business or product. An A-level in maths, economics or business studies is likely to help your application. A-levels in English, media studies or business may also help. As it's not as specialist a field as architecture or medicine, and you may end up against graduates with economics or history degrees who want a career in business. Most startup businesses fail within their first three years, so if you're hoping to be a small business owner you will need to display tenacity. Graduate schemes should give a good general grounding in business with a chance to focus on a certain area, such as HR, finance or marketing. Organisations from public, private and voluntary sectors all have a marketing department, while the ability to communicate and debate and present well will be looked on favourably.

Rankings		
1.	Oxford	100
2.	St Andrews	97.6
3.	Warwick	97.1
4.	London School of Economics	96.2
5.	UCL	92.3
6.	Bath	92.1
7.	Loughborough	88.3
8.	Glasgow	86.9
9.	King's College London	86.6
10.	Leeds	86
11.	Aberdeen	85.6
11.	Edinburgh	85.6
13.	University for the Creative Arts	84.7
14.	Strathclyde	84.4
15.	Bristol	84.2
16.	Durham	83.3
17.	UEA	82.9
18.	City	82.5
19.	Manchester	81.6
19.	Lancaster	81.6
21.	West London	81.1
22.	Exeter	80.6
23.	Bath Spa	80.5
24.	Reading	80.3
25.	Nottingham	80.1
26.	UWE Bristol	79.3
27.	Dundee	79.2
27.	Aston	79.2
27.	Birmingham	79.2
30.	Southampton	78.8
31.	Kent	78.6
32.	Cardiff	78.4
33.	Glasgow Caledonian	77.1
34.	Aberystwyth	77
35.	Nottingham Trent	76.7
35.	Salford	76.7
35.	Coventry	76.7
38.	Liverpool	76.6
39.	Edge Hill	76.3

Biomedical science

The study of life, from molecules to populations. Includes biochemistry and virology

Biomedical science is an increasingly popular subject. During a critical time for the study of human health and disease, it gives a foundation in a wide range of subjects, from biochemistry to virology. It is a degree that can open doors to roles in healthcare, one of the world's largest and fastest-growing industries, and offers an excellent alternative to standard medicine degrees. In the first year, courses

often take a broad approach, including practical lab training and units that will introduce you to biochemistry, such as cell biology, medical microbiology and infectious diseases, pharmacology and physiology. You can then choose optional units. At many universities, final-year students will complete an original research project, applying their skills to real-life problems. Most universities require three A-levels, including biology, chemistry, or physics. The degree provides a great foundation for careers in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical or food industries; biomedical research; patent examination; science communication or



medicine. Many graduates pursue a PhD or MSc. Others find work in industrial, academic or clinical laboratories or use their transferable and problem-solving skills in non-scientific careers. A significant number go on to study medicine.

Rankings		
1.	Oxford	100
2.	Warwick	94.5
3.	Swansea	92.7
4.	Lancaster	92
5.	Teesside	91.8
6.	Edinburgh	91.7
7.	Bangor	90.6
8.	Birmingham	88.1
8.	Newcastle	88.1
10.	Ulster	87.8
11.	King's College London	85.7
11.	Manchester	85.7
13.	Bath	84.2
14.	UWE Bristol	84.1
15.	Aston	83.8
16.	Dundee	83
17.	Abertay	81.3
18.	Exeter	80.5
19.	Liverpool	80.4
20.	Cardiff Met	79.9
21.	Central Lancashire	78.9
21.	Sunderland	78.9
23.	Sussex	78.6
24.	West of Scotland	78.4
25.	Queen's, Belfast	78.3
25.	Strathclyde	78.3
27.	Northumbria	77.8
28.	UEA	77.5
28.	Lincoln	77.5
30.	Portsmouth	77.3
31.	Keele	75.6
32.	Kingston	74.6
33.	Hertfordshire	74.4
34.	Oxford Brookes	74.2
35.	Plymouth	74
36.	Salford	73.9
37.	Hull	72.7
38.	Nottingham Trent	72.5
39.	Sheffield Hallam	71.7
40.	Manchester Met	71.4
41.	St George's	70.9
42.	Reading	70.6
42.	Surrey	70.6
44.	Roehampton	70
45.	Anglia Ruskin	69.9
46.	Leeds	69.6
47.	Bournemouth	69.3
48.	Bradford	66.4
49.	Chester	65.4
50.	Brighton	65.1
51.	Leeds Beckett	64.2
52.	Glasgow Caledonian	63.1
53.	Robert Gordon	59.7
54.	De Montfort	59.3
55.	Westminster	48.4
56.	Birmingham City	38.3



40. Chester	76
40. Royal Holloway	76
42. Lincoln	75.9
43. Portsmouth	75.6
44. London Met	75.4
45. Surrey	75.3
45. York	75.3
47. Hull	75.2
48. Huddersfield	75.1
49. Bradford	75
50. Stirling	74.9
51. Sheffield Hallam	74.8
52. Liverpool Hope	74.6
53. Sussex	74.5
54. Cardiff Met	74.4
55. Queen Mary	74.3
56. Edinburgh Napier	74.2
57. Robert Gordon	73.8
57. Oxford Brookes	73.8
59. South Wales	73.7
60. Buckingham	73.6
60. Bangor	73.6
62. Sunderland	73.1
63. Solent	72.7
64. St Mary's, Twickenham	72.5
65. Central Lancashire	72.3
65. Gloucestershire	72.3
67. Worcester	72.2
68. Ulster	71.9
69. University of the Arts London	71.4
70. Newcastle	71.2

71. Northumbria	71.1
71. York St John	71.1
71. Essex	71.1
74. Swansea	71
75. Sheffield	70.7
75. SOAS	70.7
77. Chichester	70.5
77. Brunel	70.5
79. Derby	70.2
80. Keele	70
80. Hertfordshire	70
80. Kingston	70
83. Plymouth	69.9
84. Queen's, Belfast	69.8
85. Manchester Met	69.7
85. Heriot-Watt	69.7
87. Leicester	69.6
88. Brighton	69
89. Leeds Beckett	68.2
90. Goldsmiths	68.1
91. Falmouth	67.8
92. Wolverhampton	67.7
93. Bournemouth	67.6
94. Trinity Saint David	67.4
95. Birmingham City	67.1
96. Liverpool John Moores	67
97. Teesside	65.9
98. Queen Margaret	65.6
98. London South Bank	65.6
100. East London	65.5
101. Anglia Ruskin	64.9
102. Leeds Trinity	64.6
103. De Montfort	64.5
104. Royal Agricultural University	64.4
105. Winchester	63.7
106. Greenwich	63.6
107. Glyndwr	63.1
107. Middlesex	63.1
109. Northampton	63
110. Roehampton	62.1
111. Westminster	62
112. West of Scotland	58.1
113. Abertay	56.2
114. Cumbria	55.2
115. Canterbury Christ Church	53.6
116. Staffordshire	53.3
117. Bucks New University	53
118. Bedfordshire	36.9



Chemistry

The science of matter - the composition of substances, their properties, and the famous names in chemistry

The discovery of penicillin, caffeine and the blue dye used for denim jeans: chemistry has a lot to answer for. It will continue to be one of the most crucial fields of study in a world battling constant crises in human health, energy and the environment.

Most courses ask for chemistry at A-level (or equivalent), and at least one other A-level in biology, maths or physics. Research-intensive universities will require chemistry, maths and one other science subject.

A career in research and development is an obvious

consideration - anything from tackling cancer to improving the formulations of cosmetics. Some universities offer four-year courses that allow students to study up to master's level.

If you want to get out of the lab after three or four years, there is a diverse range of suitable roles in the chemical, biotech and pharmaceutical industries. You will also have developed transferable skills in interpreting complex information, communicating ideas clearly, analysing and problem solving, which will be prized by employers.

Rankings

1. St Andrews	100
2. Edinburgh	96.6
3. Cambridge	93.8
3. Oxford	93.8

5. Northumbria	88.3
6. Lincoln	87.2
7. Durham	85.2
8. Imperial College	83.2
9. Glasgow	82.4
10. Bristol	79.6
11. Hull	78.6
12. Loughborough	77.6
13. Lancaster	76.3
13. Warwick	76.3
15. Greenwich	74.8
16. Strathclyde	74.7
17. York	74.6
18. Birmingham	73.5
19. Southampton	73.4
20. South Wales	72.6
21. Aberdeen	72.2
22. Central Lancashire	72.1
23. Bath	70
23. Leicester	70
25. Aston	69.9
26. Leeds	67.8
27. Brighton	67.2
28. Heriot-Watt	66.7
29. Huddersfield	64.3
30. Keele	63.9
31. Swansea	60
32. UEA	59.9
33. Liverpool	58.9
34. Plymouth	58.7
35. Liverpool John Moores	58.2
36. UCL	54.8
37. Sheffield	54.6
38. Queen's, Belfast	54.3
39. Newcastle	53.8
40. Queen Mary	53.5
41. Manchester Met	52.9
42. Manchester	52.4
43. Kingston	50.7
44. Salford	50.5
45. Kent	49.4
46. Surrey	48.3
47. Sheffield Hallam	48.2
48. Sussex	47.5
49. Bradford	46.7
50. Nottingham	45.5
51. Reading	43.7
52. Nottingham Trent	43.5
53. King's College London	40.8
54. Cardiff	33.9
55. De Montfort	32.4



Chemical engineering

The practical application of maths and science to design and produce everyday products on a large scale

Chemical engineers turn raw materials into the products and services that form the backbone of society, from clean water to healthcare products. Chemical engineering has played a part in the production of most things you use every day, from toothpaste to petrol. It's a multifaceted discipline, with subjects including chemistry, physics and maths.

Many universities will ask for three As at A-level, though offers

could range from BBC to A*AA.

More selective universities will require maths, chemistry and physics. Biology, further maths, computing or computer science will help applications.

Chemical engineers are highly sought after. Because of the nature of your degree, and especially if you pick a course with an integrated master's, you'll be set up to work in the design, manufacture and operation of plants and machinery, or in the development of new or adapted substances and materials.

The transferable skills are a gateway to industries including oil and gas, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, energy, food and water, banking and finance.

Rankings

1. Cambridge	100
2. Imperial College	93.8
3. Aberdeen	81.6
4. UCL	81.2
5. Loughborough	77.6
6. Lancaster	77.4
7. Aston	77.3
8. Huddersfield	76.7
9. Birmingham	76.4
10. Nottingham	75.3
11. Hull	75.1
12. Heriot-Watt	74
13. Leeds	72.5
14. Queen's, Belfast	71.7
15. Chester	71.5
16. Bath	71.1
17. Manchester	67.3
18. Bradford	64.4
19. Strathclyde	63.9
20. Edinburgh	62.9
21. Surrey	61.6
22. Sheffield	60.9
23. Queen Mary	59.1
24. Newcastle	59
25. London South Bank	55
26. Swansea	49.5
27. Portsmouth	47.2
28. Teesside	34.9



Children's nursing

Learn how to care for sick children in a variety of settings until they turn 18, and support their families

Children's nursing is a three-year degree. The Nursing and Midwifery Council has certain standards that apply to all courses. It will be 50% theory and 50% practice, and you have to experience care for children in a variety of settings. Each university is slightly different but, in the main, you will find there are lectures, seminars and clinical skills where students have the ability to develop expertise by practising them in a safe environment. Children's nursing remains the most popular nursing course and there are fewer places available across the country than a traditional nursing degree. Entry requirements vary but the most important A-level is biology. Another science qualification, or a social science, such as psychology or sociology, will help your application. A wide range of opportunities are available in a variety of settings. You may want to specialise and do additional qualifications such as health visiting, school nursing or paediatric intensive care. You can also go into teaching, research or management. Children's nurses are in demand and you will have a strong career trajectory ahead of you.

Rankings		
1.	Northumbria	100
2.	Coventry	96.5
3.	Southampton	95.5
4.	Derby	93.7
5.	Kingston	89.1
6.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	88.9
7.	Manchester	86.2
8.	Hertfordshire	82.4
9.	Staffordshire	81.2
10.	Brighton	79.6
11.	Hull	77.2
12.	Queen's, Belfast	76.5
13.	Plymouth	76.1
14.	Anglia Ruskin	72.9
15.	Middlesex	72.2
16.	UWE Bristol	70.8
17.	Surrey	70.2
18.	Bradford	70.1
19.	Leeds	68.9
20.	King's College London	68.1
21.	Teesside	68
22.	Central Lancashire	67.8
23.	Swansea	66.9
24.	Dundee	63.9
25.	Northampton	63.7
26.	Canterbury	
	Christ Church	63.6
27.	Nottingham	62.4
28.	Edinburgh Napier	62.2
29.	Chester	61.2
30.	Wolverhampton	59.4
31.	UEA	59.1
32.	Birmingham City	57.3
33.	Salford	53
34.	Huddersfield	51.6
35.	De Montfort	51.2
36.	Bangor	50.5
36.	City	50.5
38.	Bournemouth	50.4
39.	Sheffield Hallam	49.5
40.	Worcester	48.2
41.	Edge Hill	46.1
42.	Bucks New University	45
42.	London South Bank	45
44.	Glasgow Caledonian	37.2
45.	Greenwich	33.8
46.	Robert Gordon	33.1

Civil engineering

The study of infrastructure - designing, building and maintaining roads, energy systems and more

Civil engineering is all about designing, building and maintaining roads, bridges, railway lines, flood defences, water supply and sewage systems. Without civil engineers it would be much harder to get to work in the morning, travel to see friends, heat our homes or get clean water. The provision and maintenance of sustainable and efficient infrastructure is directly linked to economic growth - society, and indeed business, cannot operate without it. More selective universities will require maths and often physics. Further maths, chemistry, biology, computing or computer science, art, design technology or geography could all prove useful. There's a high employment rate for civil engineers, and lots of graduate schemes are open to civil engineering grads. You may find a job in a consulting or contracting engineering firm, or in a local authority or central government. Because of the practical nature of the degree, you'll have the tools to excel at a job in the sector straight away.

Rankings		
1.	Imperial College	100
2.	Bath	89
3.	Bristol	87.3
4.	Leeds	86.9
5.	Southampton	86.7
6.	Strathclyde	83.9
7.	Northumbria	80.9
8.	Nottingham	80.5
9.	Edinburgh	76.2
10.	UCL	75.2
11.	Sheffield	74.4
12.	Manchester	74.2
13.	Liverpool	73
14.	Heriot-Watt	72.7
15.	Glasgow	71.1
16.	Bradford	70.4
17.	Surrey	69.6
17.	Coventry	69.6
19.	Newcastle	69.5
20.	Ulster	69.2
21.	Loughborough	68.9
22.	Glasgow Caledonian	68.5
23.	Birmingham	68.3
24.	Dundee	67.9
25.	West London	67.1
26.	UWE Bristol	66.3
27.	Exeter	65.5
28.	Plymouth	65.2
29.	Queen's, Belfast	63.6
30.	Brighton	62.8
30.	Teesside	62.8
32.	Hertfordshire	60.8
33.	Birmingham City	59.8
34.	Portsmouth	59.4
35.	Abertay	59
36.	South Wales	58.8
37.	Cardiff	58.3
38.	Nottingham Trent	57.9



38.	Central Lancashire	57.9
40.	Kingston	57.7
41.	Swansea	56.9
42.	Brunel	56.8
43.	Salford	56.2
44.	Greenwich	55.1
45.	Derby	54.6
46.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	53.9
47.	Leeds Beckett	49
48.	Edinburgh Napier	47.9
48.	City	47.9
50.	East London	46.9
51.	London South Bank	41.5
52.	West of Scotland	39
53.	Anglia Ruskin	32.8
54.	Bolton	32.5

Classics and ancient history

Learn the language, history, culture of ancient Greece and Rome. Includes Latin and classical Greek studies

The period covered begins at the arrival of Greek speakers in mainland Greece, around the start of the second millennium BC, and stretches to the end of the western Roman empire in 5AD. A-levels in Latin, ancient Greek, history, English literature, classical civilisation and a language are often required. It is said a classics degree will not prepare you for a specific job, but will prepare you for life. While a career in academia is high on the list, graduates also go into law, medicine, education, science, business, journalism, heritage, and the civil and



diplomatic service. JK Rowling, who studied classics at Exeter, went on to write the Harry Potter series with creatures inspired by classical mythology. It's the invaluable soft skills (leadership, communication, teamwork) you'll acquire that will equip you for almost anything.

Rankings		
1.	Oxford	100
2.	Cambridge	95.6
3.	St Andrews	91.6
4.	Durham	84.6
5.	Roehampton	80.9
6.	UCL	75.5
7.	Warwick	63.6
8.	Royal Holloway	62.8
9.	Birmingham	59.7
10.	Swansea	58.8
11.	Glasgow	57.4
12.	Newcastle	52.2
13.	Leeds	50.5
14.	Exeter	50
15.	King's College London	49.7
16.	Reading	47.7
17.	Leicester	44.1
18.	Edinburgh	43.4
19.	Nottingham	40
20.	Cardiff	38.7
21.	Manchester	35.5
22.	Bristol	34.9
23.	Liverpool	29.3
24.	Kent	28.2

Computer science and information systems

Study the design and technology surrounding computing. Includes AI and software engineering

At its heart, computer science is about problem-solving. Students study the design of software and hardware used to provide solutions for business, scientific and social problems. Most computing courses focus on software engineering - things like database design, websites, network systems and the internet. But there are other options, such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, cyber security, multimedia and games design, and app design. Advancements in tech and computing have raised myriad moral and ethical questions, so now universities such as Oxford, St Andrews and Stirling offer courses combining computer science with philosophy. Some courses require maths A-level (or equivalent) and/or IT, computing or computer science. A-levels in further maths, physics, sociology and philosophy are likely to help your application. Some coding skills will give you a head start. Lots of graduates find work in the industry in technical fields,



such as computer operations, computer systems sales and service, or software engineering. This could be working in specific IT firms or companies outside the industry that use computers as a core part of the job. If you graduate bursting with ideas, maybe you could start your own business or build the next essential lifestyle app. Top tech companies and the best-paid positions often require a computer science degree, but there are other routes in. For software engineering, practical skills are valued, which you could learn through modules on your course, from online courses or coding bootcamps.

Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	99.4
3.	St Andrews	97.3
4.	Imperial College	90.8
5.	Edinburgh	85.9
6.	Durham	85
7.	UCL	84.3
8.	Glasgow	81.1
9.	Liverpool Hope	79.6
9.	Heriot-Watt	79.6
11.	Sheffield	79
12.	Bristol	78.8
13.	Lancaster	78.5
14.	Loughborough	78.1
15.	Manchester	77.6
16.	Aston	77.2
17.	Bath	76.8
18.	Exeter	75.7

19.	York	74.7
20.	Leicester	73.9
20.	Keele	73.9
22.	Strathclyde	73.7
23.	Queen Mary	73.1
24.	Stirling	72.4
25.	Swansea	72.1
25.	Ulster	72.1
27.	Aberdeen	72
27.	Birmingham	72
27.	Warwick	72
30.	Surrey	71.9
31.	Nottingham	70.8
32.	Dundee	70.7
33.	Southampton	70.5
34.	Royal Holloway	69.4
35.	Liverpool	69.3
36.	Bolton	69.2
37.	Bradford	69
38.	UWE Bristol	68.8
39.	Oxford Brookes	68.7
39.	Edge Hill	68.7
41.	Kingston	68.5
42.	Aberystwyth	68.4
43.	UEA	67.7
44.	King's College London	67
45.	Abertay	66.7
46.	Sheffield Hallam	66.6
47.	Glasgow Caledonian	66.5
48.	Lincoln	66.4
49.	Leeds Beckett	66.2
50.	Sunderland	66.1
51.	City	65.6
52.	Chester	65.4
53.	Cardiff	65.1
54.	East London	64.9
54.	Newcastle	64.9
56.	Bangor	64.7
57.	Leeds	64.5
58.	Winchester	64.4
58.	Trinity Saint David	64.4
58.	Brighton	64.4
61.	Liverpool John Moores	64
61.	Kent	64
63.	Nottingham Trent	63.6
64.	Northumbria	63.5

65.	Staffordshire	62.7
65.	Essex	62.7
67.	Bath Spa	62.2
68.	Brunel	62.1
69.	West London	62
69.	Portsmouth	62
71.	Manchester Met	61.8
72.	Huddersfield	61.6
72.	Edinburgh Napier	61.6
72.	South Wales	61.6
75.	London Met	61.5
75.	Birmingham City	61.5
77.	Coventry	61.4
78.	Goldsmiths	61.2
78.	Sussex	61.2
80.	Northampton	60.7
81.	West of Scotland	60.4
82.	Bucks New University	60.2
83.	Suffolk	60.1
84.	Greenwich	59.7
85.	Plymouth	59.4
86.	Teesside	58.9
87.	Middlesex	58.5
88.	Bournemouth	58.1
88.	Salford	58.1
90.	Derby	57.4
91.	Solent	57.2
92.	Queen's, Belfast	57.1
93.	Cardiff Met	56.5
93.	Reading	56.5
95.	Hull	56.3
96.	Hertfordshire	54.8
97.	Robert Gordon	53.2
97.	Wolverhampton	53.2
99.	Worcester	52.1
100.	Central Lancashire	51.2
101.	Roehampton	50.2
101.	De Montfort	50.2
103.	Westminster	48.5
104.	Anglia Ruskin	48.1
105.	Canterbury Christ Church	47.3
106.	York St John	47.1
107.	London South Bank	43.4
108.	Glyndwr	39.8
109.	Gloucestershire	33.1
110.	Bedfordshire	32.9

Construction, surveying and planning



The study of all aspects of buildings (except design), from construction to location policy

From construction management to urban planning and quantity surveying, this area has a wide range of career routes. Building and town and country planning are distinct, though closely linked. Building studies tends to focus on construction. Town and country planning is the construction industry's strategic cousin. Town planners take decisions that shape major issues, such as where and how jobs are created, how we regenerate places, where people live, and how we travel. Some institutions don't ask for specific A-levels, but expect a

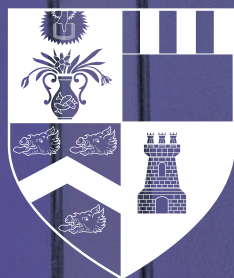
4 (or C) or higher in GCSE maths and English. Building and town and country planning graduates have very good employment prospects. You could get work in a local council's planning department, a national or local planning consultancy, a national environmental charity, or an environmental consultancy organisation. A degree in building or town and country planning will give you plenty of transferable skills, such as communication and time management - perfect for a career in business, or working for an NGO, perhaps one that aims to better the environment.

Rankings

1.	UCL	100
2.	Sheffield	91.4
3.	Manchester	88.7
4.	Huddersfield	84.9
5.	Aston	83.6
6.	UWE Bristol	78.6
7.	Northumbria	78
7.	Heriot-Watt	78
9.	Oxford Brookes	77.7
10.	Liverpool	76.6
11.	Nottingham	74.1

12.	Nottingham Trent	73.7
13.	Coventry	72.1
14.	Queen's, Belfast	71.3
15.	Newcastle	71
16.	Ulster	69.4
16.	Plymouth	69.4
18.	West London	68.3
19.	Birmingham	67.9
20.	Sheffield Hallam	67.5
21.	Cardiff	60.4
22.	Brighton	59.5
23.	Reading	58.8
23.	Loughborough	58.8
25.	Portsmouth	58.6
26.	Leeds Beckett	57.6
27.	Edinburgh Napier	57.4
28.	Robert Gordon	56.6
29.	Salford	55.6
30.	Central Lancashire	55.1
30.	London South Bank	55.1
32.	Liverpool John Moores	54.7
33.	Derby	52.8
34.	Greenwich	50.8
35.	South Wales	49.9
36.	Gloucestershire	49.4
37.	Birmingham City	48.6
38.	Glasgow Caledonian	47
39.	Kingston	46.3
40.	Wolverhampton	44.2
41.	Royal Agricultural University	40.9
42.	Anglia Ruskin	36.1
43.	Westminster	32

1 4 9 5



UNIVERSITY OF
ABERDEEN

ABERDEEN

SATURDAY 1st OCTOBER

OPEN DAY

A TOP 20 UK UNIVERSITY

GUARDIAN UNIVERSITY GUIDE, TIMES/SUNDAY TIMES GOOD UNIVERSITY GUIDE 2022

[ABDN.AC.UK/OPENDAY](https://abdn.ac.uk/openday)



Creative writing

The study of techniques used by renowned writers, with the focus on developing your voice

Creative writing is about learning to write creatively and analyse critically at the same time. You will study techniques used by renowned writers to enhance your abilities, while developing your own voice as a writer. Courses may be taught by published authors. Studying the subject gives students a safe and supportive environment in which to grow and flourish as writers - be that in prose, poetry or creative nonfiction. Teaching is a mix of lectures and seminars. Working in small groups helps you hone skills such as self-editing, so you can critique your own work, and close reading, so you can get the most from the texts you'll study. Most courses will help you produce your own portfolio. Some courses are taught by acclaimed writers, so it is worth looking at what is on offer. Consider contact hours, too: students often receive approximately 10 hours of weekly contact time. For every hour spent in class, you would be expected to complete a

further four to six hours of independent study. At least one A-level in an essay-based arts and humanities subject is expected. Creative writing can go far and wide, thanks to the combination of analytical and creative skills. You may go on to work in publishing, the media, the public sector, education, business or the creative arts. Graduates will also be well placed for a career in advertising or marketing.

Rankings

1.	Birmingham	100
2.	Chichester	97.4
3.	Central Lancashire	97
4.	Sheffield Hallam	96.2
5.	Edge Hill	94.5
6.	UEA	90.1
8.	Aberystwyth	90.1
6.	Salford	89.9
9.	UWE Bristol	84.8
10.	York St John	81.7
11.	Manchester Met	79.6
12.	Bangor	79
13.	Roehampton	77.5
14.	Essex	77.3
15.	Canterbury Christ Church	68.9
16.	Gloucestershire	62.9
17.	Brighton	54.7
18.	Portsmouth	52.1
19.	Liverpool John Moores	48.5
20.	De Montfort	40.6
21.	Winchester	40.3
22.	Bath Spa	37.7

Criminology

The study of crime and criminality - from policing and punishment to justice and social policy

A criminology course enables students to examine, with a scientific eye, issues including policing tactics, cyberterrorism, knife crime and justice systems on a local, national and international scale. Degree courses explore the causes of crime, its impact, and how society can try to prevent it. Criminology overlaps with

several academic disciplines, including sociology, psychology, law and social policy. You could be analysing the thought processes of a serial killer, prison rituals, or the treatment of minority groups within the criminal justice system. Expect field work, lab work and visits to prisons, courts and police establishments. A-levels (or equivalent) in the arts, humanities or sciences may help your application. Criminology tends to be a vocational degree. Graduates often find work in the criminal justice system, as a police officer, probation officer, prison

governor, case review manager, or in forensic accounting. A career in public policy - in the civil service, a thinktank or charity - is also an option. Having developed an understanding of the social issues surrounding crime, a criminology graduate may be suited to a career in social work, victim support or drugs rehabilitation. Some continue with a postgraduate qualification, specialising in areas such as forensic psychology or criminal justice. Criminology also lends itself to a career in law.

Rankings

1.	Loughborough	100	26.	Nottingham	78.7	56.	Salford	69.5
2.	Durham	99.3	29.	Portsmouth	78.4	56.	Central Lancashire	69.5
3.	Staffordshire	94.9	30.	Manchester Met	78.2	58.	Bangor	69
4.	Leeds	94.6	31.	Solent	78	59.	Chester	68.1
5.	Sheffield	93.2	32.	South Wales	77	60.	York St John	67.2
6.	Glyndwr	91.6	33.	Sunderland	76.7	61.	Lincoln	66.9
7.	Leicester	90	33.	York	76.7	62.	Gloucestershire	65.8
8.	Exeter	89.7	35.	Coventry	76.2	63.	Greenwich	65.7
9.	Bolton	87.8	36.	Suffolk	76.1	63.	Hertfordshire	65.7
10.	Swansea	86.9	37.	Essex	76	65.	Kingston	65.2
11.	Surrey	86.1	38.	Abertay	75.9	66.	Birmingham City	64.8
12.	Cardiff	85.4	39.	Keele	75.8	67.	Huddersfield	64.1
13.	Southampton	85	40.	UWE Bristol	75.6	68.	Oxford Brookes	64
14.	Birmingham	84.2	41.	City	74.8	69.	Liverpool	62.9
15.	Northumbria	84	42.	Edge Hill	74.4	70.	Brighton	61.7
16.	Edinburgh Napier	83.8	43.	Nottingham Trent	73.6	71.	Winchester	61.3
17.	Lancaster	83.4	44.	Bournemouth	73.5	72.	Roehampton	59.2
18.	Queen's, Belfast	83.1	45.	Hull	73.2	73.	Bradford	57.2
19.	Royal Holloway	82.1	46.	Liverpool John Moores	72.6	73.	Canterbury Christ Church	57.2
20.	Wolverhampton	81.9	46.	London South Bank	72.6	75.	Leeds Beckett	56.2
21.	Worcester	81.7	48.	Middlesex	72.4	75.	Bath Spa	56.2
22.	West London	81.2	49.	Anglia Ruskin	72.3	77.	London Met	51
23.	Liverpool Hope	79.6	50.	Sussex	72.1	78.	East London	49.7
24.	Ulster	79.5	51.	Plymouth	71.2	79.	Westminster	48.5
25.	Manchester	79	52.	Stirling	71	80.	Northampton	43.1
26.	Leeds Trinity	78.7	53.	Teesside	70.6	81.	De Montfort	37
26.	Derby	78.7	54.	Sheffield Hallam	70.4			
			55.	Kent	69.6			



Dentistry

Study of the prevention, detection and treatment of oral and dental disease, plus oral health

You'll start by learning the theory behind dentistry, with topics such as microbiology, anatomy, physiology, human disease, pathology and epidemiology. Later you'll gain practical experience of orthodontics, sedation and minor oral surgeries.

Most universities ask for three As at A-level. Chemistry and biology are often a requirement, along with maths and physics.

Dentistry has one of the highest starting salaries. After your five-year degree, you will need to complete one or two years' supervised practice. You could end up running your own practice or cutting your teeth in an existing practice or community health centre.

Rankings

1.	Glasgow	100
2.	Plymouth	91.4
3.	Queen's, Belfast	90.9
4.	Dundee	90.5
5.	Liverpool	75.8
6.	Bristol	75.2
7.	Newcastle	72.4
8.	Aberdeen	71.5
9.	Queen Mary	68.9
10.	Leeds	63.2
11.	Sheffield	61.4
12.	Cardiff	60.4
13.	Birmingham	54.2
14.	King's College London	51.3
15.	Manchester	49.4
16.	Teesside	35



Earth and marine sciences

Study of the Earth, seas, rivers and the atmosphere. Includes geology and ocean science

With the climate crisis climbing ever higher on the global political agenda, there has never been a more pertinent time to study the planet. This field touches on disciplines such as biology, chemistry and physics, but also includes geography, maths, engineering and other sciences.

You could find yourself investigating the disappearance of dinosaurs, developing ways to safely dispose of nuclear waste, or diving in the tropical reef systems of the Indian Ocean.

The most selective universities ask for at least two A-levels in biology, maths, physics or chemistry. Geography, geology, computing or computer science will also help your application.

Further study is required to



become a marine biologist or oceanographer, or to work in industry or academia. Some courses include a master's, which can boost your employability.

Your degree will see you well placed for a job in conservation or environmental campaigning. You could also work in research, government, the mining or civil engineering industries, or as an oil spill consultant or underwater filmmaker.

Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	89.1
3.	Imperial College	83.9
4.	Durham	78.9
5.	Highlands & Islands	75.9
6.	St Andrews	75.6
7.	Aberdeen	73.9
8.	Exeter	73.7
9.	Reading	73.2
10.	UCL	70.6
11.	Keele	67.3
12.	Leeds	62.8
13.	Lancaster	61.8
14.	Birmingham	60.9
15.	Glasgow	59.9
16.	Royal Holloway	59.8
17.	Northumbria	59.4
18.	UEA	59.2
19.	Hull	57.9
19.	Bristol	57.9
21.	Edinburgh	55.4
22.	Leicester	54.6
23.	Brighton	54.5
24.	Newcastle	54.4
25.	Plymouth	53.5
26.	Manchester Met	50.5
27.	South Wales	47.6
28.	Southampton	46.5
29.	York	45.2
30.	Liverpool	41.9
31.	Manchester	41.2
32.	Portsmouth	38.5
33.	Aberystwyth	37
34.	Edge Hill	34.7
35.	Cardiff	34.1
36.	Bangor	29.6

Drama and dance

The study of artistic performance - includes drama, dance, cinematics, photography and stage

Highly practical and creative, a degree in drama and/or dance will be a challenging experience, but a labour of love. You'll spend long hours in the dance studio or theatre rehearsing and performing, and learn the theory that underpins your subject.

Drama, performing arts and English literature A-levels are all likely to prove useful. A foundation degree may help.

Drama school graduates often find all manner of stage and TV work, while those with a behind-the-scenes degree can go on to jobs in costume and set design. Dance graduates can be found in community projects or choreography.

You'll also have transferable skills to work in areas such as tourism, marketing or perhaps the voluntary sector. Some graduates train to become dance and drama therapists.

Rankings

1.	Exeter	100
2.	West London	99.2
3.	Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	97.8
4.	Warwick	97.4
4.	Conservatoire for Dance and Drama	97.4
6.	Essex	95.5
7.	Surrey	95.2
8.	Lancaster	95
9.	Sheffield Hallam	93.7
10.	Guildhall School of Music and Drama	92.8
11.	Manchester	92.2
12.	Queen Margaret	91.4
13.	Lincoln	91.2
13.	Sunderland	91.2
15.	Manchester Met	90.7
16.	Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	90.1
17.	Leeds	89.9
18.	Trinity Laban Conservatoire	89.4
19.	Glasgow	88
20.	Plymouth College of Art	87.6
21.	Queen Mary	86.8
22.	Worcester	86.6
22.	Edge Hill	86.6
24.	Birmingham City	86.5
25.	Bath Spa	86.4
26.	Staffordshire	86.2
27.	Kent	84.5

28.	Central Lancashire	84.3
29.	Anglia Ruskin	83.9
30.	Coventry	83.5
31.	Royal Holloway	83.3
32.	Sussex	82.8
32.	The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	82.8
34.	Northampton	82.5
34.	St Mary's, Twickenham	82.5
34.	Bristol	82.5
37.	Birmingham	82.2
38.	UEA	81.9
39.	Royal Central School of Speech & Drama	81.7
40.	Greenwich	81.3
41.	York	80.9
42.	Rose Bruford College	80.8
43.	Falmouth	80.5
44.	Roehampton	80.4
45.	Northumbria	80.1
46.	Middlesex	79.9
47.	Derby	78.6
47.	South Wales	78.6
49.	London South Bank	77.8
50.	Bolton	76.9
51.	Bucks New University	76.5
52.	York St John	75.6
52.	Gloucestershire	75.6
54.	Trinity Saint David	75.5
54.	Huddersfield	75.5
56.	Salford	75.3
57.	Bedfordshire	74.8
58.	Chester	74.4
59.	Winchester	74.3
60.	De Montfort	74.2
61.	Plymouth Marjon	74
62.	Nottingham Trent	73.3
63.	Hull	73.2
64.	Chichester	72.8
65.	East London	72.6
66.	Plymouth	71.5



67.	Liverpool John Moores	71.4
68.	Liverpool Hope	71.1
69.	Portsmouth	69.3
70.	LAMDA	69
71.	University of the Arts London	68.2
72.	UWE Bristol	66.9
73.	Reading	66.7
74.	Brunel	66.6
75.	University for the Creative Arts	66

76.	Arts University Bournemouth	65
77.	Aberystwyth	64.8
78.	Queen's, Belfast	64
79.	West of Scotland	63
80.	Goldsmiths	62.9
81.	Ulster	62.3
82.	Canterbury Christ Church	58.8
83.	Kingston	54.3
84.	Leeds Beckett	52.7
85.	Solent	39.7

Economics



Find out what influences income, wealth and wellbeing, and how this can be developed into policy

Why is there still a gender pay gap? Does a strong economy make for happier citizens? A degree in economics will help you explore these questions and many more.

From trade to education, migration to globalisation, the social issues and policy questions that dominate newspaper headlines are also issues you will study on an economics course.

Maths A-level will help your application; to study at one of the more selective universities, it's essential. A-levels in history, business studies or computer science could be useful.

Economics is one of the most lucrative degrees, particularly for alumni of the LSE or Cambridge. With strong skills in numeracy, analysis and communication, you'll be highly employable. Most graduates find work in business or financial services, or sales and marketing. If you want to feel like you're shaping the nation, a job in the Treasury is a good bet, or in the civil service and in local government.

Rankings				
1.	St Andrews	100	37. Loughborough	70.6
2.	Oxford	98.9	38. Surrey	70
3.	Cambridge	94.5	39. Huddersfield	69.8
4.	London School of Economics	89.3	40. Bristol	69.7
5.	Warwick	88.4	41. Kent	69.6
6.	Stirling	87.5	42. Ulster	69.4
7.	Durham	86.1	43. UWE Bristol	68.8
8.	Hertfordshire	83.3	44. London South Bank	68.7
9.	Heriot-Watt	82.1	45. Nottingham	68.4
10.	UCL	81.6	46. Leeds Beckett	67.4
11.	Glasgow	80.9	47. Queen's, Belfast	66.9
12.	Brighton	80	48. Reading	66.1
13.	Hull	79.7	49. Bradford	65.5
14.	Strathclyde	79.6	50. Sheffield	65
15.	Leeds	78.6	51. Manchester	64.6
16.	Kingston	78.3	52. Nottingham Trent	64.2
16.	Aberdeen	78.3	53. Queen Mary	63.9
18.	UEA	75.9	54. Goldsmiths	63.8
19.	Winchester	75.7	55. Middlesex	63.6
20.	Birmingham	75.5	55. Birmingham City	63.6
21.	Bath	75.2	57. Coventry	63.3
22.	Essex	74.9	58. Leicester	62.6
23.	Liverpool	74	59. Westminster	62.4
23.	Swansea	74	60. Dundee	61.5
25.	Cardiff Met	73.9	61. Greenwich	61.2
26.	King's College London	73.6	62. Salford	61.1
27.	Edinburgh	73.5	62. Sheffield Hallam	61.1
28.	Portsmouth	73.4	64. Sussex	60.3
29.	Lancaster	73.2	65. East London	60
30.	Exeter	73.1	65. SOAS	60
31.	Keele	72.9	67. Newcastle	59.5
32.	Royal Holloway	72.6	68. Cardiff	59
33.	Aston	71.7	69. Oxford Brookes	57.1
34.	Southampton	71.6	70. Bournemouth	56.3
35.	York	71	71. Manchester Met	54.6
36.	Lincoln	70.8	72. City	52.5
			73. De Montfort	47.4
			74. Plymouth	43.7
			75. Brunel	35.1

Education

Find out how people learn through education studies, teacher training, and academic studies

How does the human brain learn and retain information? How can education policy help bring about equality and social justice for children and young people? How can a teacher get a room of 30 pupils to be quiet and pay attention? An education degree will teach you about the theories underpinning how we learn, and give you the practical skills needed to work in education.

If you're planning to be a teacher, you'll need A-level in the subject you wish to specialise in. Also, a 4 (or C) or above in GCSE maths and English.

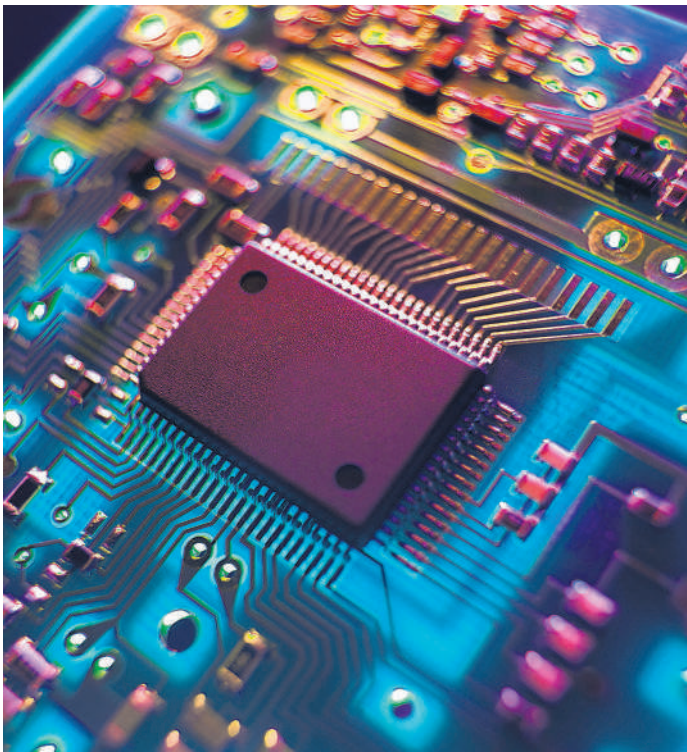
This degree will give you skills in working with people, organising and planning, and coping with stressful situations. Along with teaching (the obvious choice), there are jobs in social care, the leisure and tourism sectors, or in education policy for government, industry or a charity.

Rankings				
1.	Cambridge	100	33. Huddersfield	73
2.	Edinburgh	89.8	34. Chester	72.5
3.	UCL	88.2	35. Cardiff	72.4
4.	Bath	87.8	35. Swansea	72.4
5.	Warwick	86.3	37. UWE Bristol	72
6.	Anglia Ruskin	85.8	38. Leeds	71.9
7.	Bristol	83.1	38. Aberystwyth	71.9
8.	Brighton	82.1	40. Liverpool Hope	71.6
9.	Reading	80.8	40. South Wales	71.6
10.	Hull	80.6	42. Northampton	70.7
10.	Durham	80.6	43. St Mary's, Belfast	70.6
12.	Sunderland	80.5	44. Plymouth	70.4
13.	Chichester	80.4	45. Central Lancashire	70.1
14.	Trinity Saint David	79.9	45. Coventry	70.1
15.	St Mary's, Twickenham	79.3	47. Birmingham	70
16.	Southampton	79	48. Leeds Trinity	69.7
16.	Kingston	79	49. Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	69.1
18.	Strathclyde	78.9	49. Wolverhampton	69.1
19.	West of Scotland	78.8	51. Stirling	68.8
20.	Glasgow	78	52. York St John	68.6
21.	Plymouth Marjon	77.4	53. Sheffield	68.4
22.	Sheffield Hallam	77.1	54. Birmingham City	68.2
23.	Oxford Brookes	76.5	55. Aberdeen	67.6
24.	Dundee	75.4	56. Canterbury Christ Church	66.9
24.	Sussex	75.4	57. Keele	66.6
26.	Newcastle	75.3	58. Greenwich	66.5
27.	Derby	75.1	59. Worcester	66.4
28.	Edge Hill	74.7	60. Liverpool John Moores	65.9
29.	Hertfordshire	74.6	61. Bishop Grosseteste	65.5
30.	Lincoln	73.8	62. Nottingham Trent	65.4
30.	Winchester	73.8	63. Bolton	64.7
32.	West London	73.3	63. Manchester Met	64.7



65. Staffordshire	63.7	77. Cumbria	54.8
66. Leeds Beckett	63.6	78. York	53.2
67. Bangor	62.3	79. Brunel	52.8
68. Gloucestershire	62.1	80. East London	51.5
69. Stranmillis UC	61.9	81. Portsmouth	51
70. Newman	60.9	82. Middlesex	49
71. Bath Spa	60.4	83. Teesside	47.6
72. UEA	60.1	84. De Montfort	45.3
73. Northumbria	60	85. Glyndwr	43.8
74. Bedfordshire	58	86. Goldsmiths	43.7
75. Roehampton	57.1	87. London South Bank	40.5
76. Cardiff Met	56.8	88. London Met	34.6

Electrical and electronic engineering



Engineering of electrical and electronic systems, microelectronics, silicon devices and nanotechnology

If you want to create a green energy revolution, build AI robots or develop the next generation of self-driving cars, this degree could be for you. You'll learn how the industry works and gain the skills and technological knowledge needed to design, assess and improve electrical and electronic systems. The more selective universities require maths or further maths and physics. Computing or computer science, or design technology, will help your application. There's a huge demand for electrical engineering graduates and starting salaries are high. Obvious jobs are in electronics companies, telecommunications and satellite firms. But the list

could also include software companies and hospitals. Work in the construction industry is another option, perhaps in consultancy, or for a security firm which needs new ways of protecting property. There are also opportunities in the aerospace, automotive, energy and IT sectors.

Rankings

1.	Southampton	100
2.	Edinburgh	90.6
3.	Imperial College	88.8
4.	Manchester Met	88.3
5.	Strathclyde	86
6.	Glasgow	85.9
7.	Queen's, Belfast	83.8
8.	Leeds	83.7
9.	Nottingham	83.6
10.	Surrey	83.2
11.	Huddersfield	82.1
12.	Manchester	82
13.	UCL	81.1
14.	Bath	80.7
15.	Loughborough	80.5
16.	Cardiff	79.8
17.	Ulster	79.7
18.	Derby	79.2
19.	Plymouth	78.9
19.	Sheffield	78.9
21.	Heriot-Watt	78.7
22.	Birmingham	77.8
23.	Hertfordshire	77.7
24.	Queen Mary	76.9

25.	Liverpool John Moores	75.3
26.	Aston	74.8
27.	Exeter	74.3
28.	Bristol	74.1
29.	York	73.2
30.	Lancaster	73.1
31.	London South Bank	72.2
32.	Bangor	70
33.	Swansea	69
34.	Essex	68.9
35.	Birmingham City	68.4
36.	Teesside	67.7
37.	Liverpool	67.6
38.	Newcastle	66.2
39.	Bradford	64.9
40.	Nottingham Trent	64.7
41.	Sheffield Hallam	63.9
42.	Coventry	61.7
43.	Northumbria	61
44.	Brunel	59.2
45.	City	57.2
46.	Greenwich	56.1
47.	Leeds Beckett	55.9
48.	South Wales	55.7
49.	Portsmouth	53.9
50.	Hull	53.7
51.	Brighton	52.8
52.	London Met	52.7
53.	Westminster	52.6
54.	Kent	51.7
55.	Robert Gordon	50.1
56.	King's College London	49.9
57.	Glasgow Caledonian	46.7
58.	Salford	41
59.	Central Lancashire	38.3
60.	De Montfort	35.1

English

The critical study of literature, including poetry, novels, plays and language, with a chance to specialise

From Geoffrey Chaucer to Toni Morrison, you'll study a broad range of writers, topics and genres. You'll spend hours reading, discussing and writing, and be expected to analyse literature, know the genres, and put what you've read into some form of social and historical context. There may be an opportunity to specialise, so if you have a penchant for female 19th-century writers or Irish poetry, certain courses will allow you to study them in greater detail. Alternatively, you might wish to study linguistics, another subject found in English departments. Linguists are more concerned with the specific aspects of language - sound, grammar and meaning - rather than the creative use of it. You'll investigate how languages differ, how language relates to thought, and how we understand it in the written and spoken form.

English A-level is usually required. Your assessment is likely to be coursework-based, with few exams. Journalism, editing or publishing are obvious choices for those with a love of words, but these can be competitive careers. Graduates will also be well placed for a career in advertising or marketing, so consider applying for graduate training schemes. With further study, English graduates can go into law, teaching or academia. Rest assured, you'll leave with plenty of skills. These include the ability to work independently and manage your time, as well as research and team-working.

Rankings

1.	St Andrews	100
2.	Oxford	98.3
3.	Durham	97.9
4.	Cambridge	89.3
5.	Warwick	86.9
6.	UCL	84.7
7.	Lancaster	84.2
8.	Loughborough	82.8
9.	Surrey	76.3
10.	Edge Hill	75.2
11.	Exeter	74.1
12.	Liverpool John Moores	73.1
13.	Hertfordshire	72.5

14.	Glasgow	71.9
15.	Aberdeen	70.5
16.	Hull	70.2
17.	Strathclyde	69.8
17.	York	69.8
19.	Gloucestershire	69.7
20.	Swansea	69.1
21.	Birmingham	66.6
22.	Sheffield	66.1
23.	Edinburgh Napier	66
24.	Edinburgh	65.6
25.	Keele	65.4
26.	Sussex	65
26.	Leeds	65
28.	Queen Mary	64.9
29.	Aston	64.7
30.	Derby	64.5
31.	Nottingham	64.2
32.	Worcester	64.1
33.	Sheffield Hallam	63.8
34.	Roehampton	63.7
34.	King's College London	63.7
36.	Kent	63.6
36.	Manchester	63.6
38.	City	63.1
39.	Bournemouth	62.4
40.	Reading	62.2
41.	Canterbury Christ Church	62.1
42.	Anglia Ruskin	62
43.	Royal Holloway	61.8
43.	Sunderland	61.8
45.	Southampton	61.4
46.	Oxford Brookes	61.2
47.	Teesside	61
48.	Brunel	60.9
49.	Cardiff	60.8
50.	Kingston	60.1
50.	Falmouth	60.1
52.	Nottingham Trent	60
52.	Central Lancashire	60
54.	Plymouth	59.3
55.	Leicester	58.7
55.	Aberystwyth	58.7
57.	Stirling	58.2



58.	Westminster	58
59.	Lincoln	57.6
59.	Huddersfield	57.6
61.	Northampton	57
62.	Chester	56.9
63.	Newcastle	56.5
64.	Northumbria	55.5
65.	Coventry	54.5
66.	Manchester Met	53.7
67.	Bangor	53.5
67.	UWE Bristol	53.5
69.	UEA	53.2
69.	Queen's, Belfast	53.2
71.	Liverpool	52.9
72.	Greenwich	52.1
72.	Bristol	52.1

74.	Ulster	51.2
75.	Salford	50.6
76.	Leeds Beckett	49.9
77.	Liverpool Hope	49
78.	Portsmouth	47
79.	Winchester	46.4
80.	York St John	45.4
81.	Leeds Trinity	44.2
82.	Essex	44.1
83.	Birmingham City	43.1
84.	Brighton	41.3
85.	Bath Spa	36.3
86.	Wolverhampton	34.4
87.	Dundee	32.7
88.	De Montfort	32.6
89.	Goldsmiths	30.6



Fashion and textiles

The study of - and training in - the design and use of textiles and other materials to create clothing

Fashion students are taught to understand the construction of clothing. This means practising drawing, pattern-cutting and tailoring, and developing an understanding of shape and colour. You'll gain insight into how the fashion world functions commercially.

Useful subjects include English, maths, art, design and technology, and textiles at A-level. A foundation diploma in art and design may help.

Forging a career in fashion and textiles is tough, but options are out there. You could become a designer for men's or women's wear, a stylist, illustrator, in-house designer, journalist or teacher. Many graduates work in retail fashion, as buyers, merchandisers or managers.

Some textile graduates work as textile technologists (quality-controlling textiles), textile designers or assistant designers.

Rankings

1.	Loughborough	100
2.	Kingston	94.9
3.	Bucks New University	86.2
4.	Central Lancashire	84.2
5.	Edinburgh	83.2
6.	University of the Arts London	82.6

7.	Northumbria	82.5
8.	South Wales	81.8
9.	Trinity Saint David	80.6
10.	Salford	80.2
11.	Glasgow School of Art	77.1
12.	University for the Creative Arts	76.3
13.	Nottingham Trent	75.1
14.	Solent	74.9
15.	Manchester Met	74.6
16.	Southampton	72.3
17.	Leeds Arts	71.2
18.	Northampton	70.8
18.	Westminster	70.8
20.	UWE Bristol	70.5
20.	Sheffield Hallam	70.5
22.	Coventry	69.8
23.	Ulster	69.4
24.	West London	69.2
25.	Arts University Bournemouth	67.9
25.	Manchester	67.9
27.	Portsmouth	67.6
28.	Leeds	67.3
29.	Plymouth College of Art	66.3
29.	Derby	66.3
31.	Huddersfield	66
32.	Norwich University of the Arts	65.6
33.	Leeds Beckett	63.2
34.	Liverpool John Moores	61.2
35.	Cardiff Met	59.2
36.	Hertfordshire	58.5
37.	Falmouth	58.2
38.	Brighton	57.1
39.	De Montfort	57
40.	East London	54.7
41.	Bath Spa	53.5
42.	Middlesex	50.6
43.	Birmingham City	48.2
44.	Chester	46
45.	Heriot-Watt	41.4
46.	Ravensbourne	34.4

Film production and photography

The study of all aspects of filmmaking and the creation of still images on photographic film or plates

Film production students will spend most of their time - not surprisingly - making films. You'll be taught about the stages required to get a piece of work up to industry standard, from pre-production, such as producing and planning, to directing, light and sound work, then through to post-production.

Photographers will learn about studio photography, portraits, location shoots, landscape photography and still life.

Art and design or related subjects at A-level or equivalent are required, plus a foundation diploma in art and design.

Film graduates could find work as runners, film or video editors, production assistants, location managers, camera operators, sound recordists, as employees or as freelancers.

Photography graduates go on to become photographers (for press or commercial clients), or find work in curating, researching or publishing. Many work in education.

Rankings

1.	Sunderland	100
2.	Glasgow	96.5
3.	Edinburgh Napier	96.3
4.	Trinity Saint David	95.8
5.	York	93.1
6.	UWE Bristol	92.6
7.	Kent	90.4
8.	Roehampton	90.1
9.	Staffordshire	88.9
10.	Royal Holloway	87.9
11.	Kingston	87.6
12.	Edge Hill	87.4
13.	Bristol	87.3
14.	Leeds	87.1
15.	Leeds Arts	86.7
16.	Portsmouth	84.8
17.	Queen's, Belfast	84.7
18.	West London	83.3
19.	Plymouth	83
19.	Manchester Met	83
21.	Huddersfield	81.2
22.	Bolton	80.6
23.	Arts University Bournemouth	80.5
24.	Leeds Beckett	80.1
25.	Northumbria	79.9
26.	Salford	79.5
27.	Chichester	79.1
28.	Bath Spa	78.8
29.	University of the Arts London	78.6
30.	Birmingham City	78
31.	Westminster	77
32.	Leeds Trinity	76.8
33.	London Met	72.4
34.	York St John	71.9

35.	Gloucestershire	71.8
36.	London South Bank	71.5
37.	Reading	71.3
38.	Falmouth	70.5
39.	Sheffield Hallam	69.9
40.	Wolverhampton	68.6
41.	Derby	68.4
42.	University for the Creative Arts	66.6
43.	Canterbury Christ Church	65.3
44.	Lincoln	65.1
45.	Bournemouth	64.3
46.	Ulster	63.8
47.	Nottingham Trent	63.6
48.	Edinburgh	62.8
49.	Middlesex	62.7
50.	Aberystwyth	62.6
51.	Winchester	62.5
52.	Suffolk	62.1
53.	Liverpool John Moores	61.7
54.	Norwich University of the Arts	61.1
55.	South Wales	59.6
56.	Solent	59.4
57.	West of Scotland	58.2
58.	Anglia Ruskin	56.1
59.	Central Lancashire	52.1
60.	Sussex	51.9
61.	Hertfordshire	51.2
62.	Cumbria	51.1
63.	Brighton	49.5
64.	Greenwich	46.3
65.	De Montfort	42.5
66.	Chester	38.4
67.	Brunel	36.3



ual:

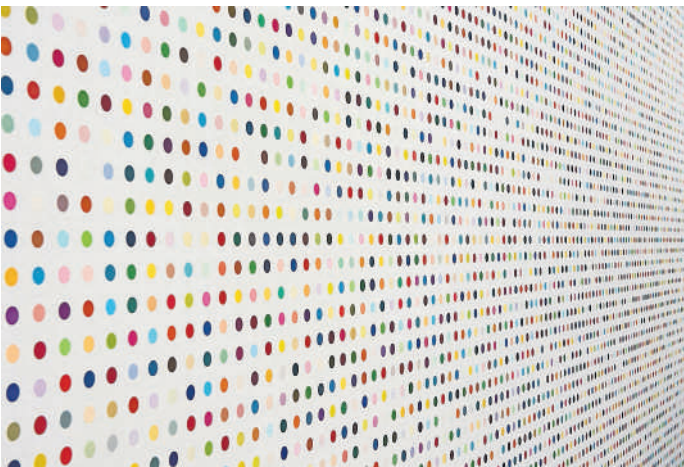
Because the world needs creativity

We are University of the Arts London.
A place for artists, communicators,
designers, makers, performers and
thinkers to develop their creativity.

arts.ac.uk

Aidai Serkebaeva, 2022 BA Fashion Design and Development, London College of Fashion, UAL | Photograph: Ben Turner, Model: Natalia Zhang, Make-up: Lisa Huang

Subjects / F-G



Fine art

Study and train in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and other media, plus exhibition visits

Before becoming world-famous artists, Tracey Emin, Damien Hirst and Pablo Picasso all took an art course. But the scope of art degrees has widened dramatically, and can include anything from fine art and drawing to sculpture, printmaking and calligraphy. Some universities require a foundation course in art and design, or a BTec national diploma (or equivalent). This will equip you with a portfolio of up-to-date work and a good idea about whether a three- or four-year art degree is really for you. You'll need plenty of grit and perseverance if you plan to become a freelance artist. Graduates can also be found in roles such as art directors, arts administrators or art therapists, as well as working in advertising, art galleries, film and theatre. Some work for engineering or tech companies, helping to make products more accessible for users. The degree will help you develop transferable skills, including creativity, entrepreneurialism, and research and collaboration.

Rankings

1. Oxford	100
2. Lancaster	89.1
3. Newcastle	83.8
4. Goldsmiths	82.2
5. University of the Arts London	79.7
6. Derby	78.8
7. Westminster	78.7
8. Loughborough	78.3
9. Edinburgh	77
10. Staffordshire	76.4
11. Trinity Saint David	75.6

12. Central Lancashire	74.9
13. Dundee	74.8
14. Oxford Brookes	74.7
15. Wolverhampton	74.1
16. Sunderland	73.4
17. UCL	73
18. Glasgow School of Art	72.7
19. Bath Spa	71.3
20. Chester	71
21. Liverpool John Moores	70.6
22. UWE Bristol	69.8
23. Leeds	69
24. Lincoln	67.1
25. Kingston	66.3
26. Manchester Met	66
27. Southampton	65.4
28. Glyndwr	65.2
29. Chichester	64.9
30. Robert Gordon	63.6
31. Huddersfield	63.4
32. Norwich University of the Arts	62.8
33. Reading	62.7
34. Liverpool Hope	62.6
35. London Met	62.5
36. Middlesex	62
37. East London	61
38. Bolton	60.2
39. Teesside	60
40. Brighton	58.3
41. University for the Creative Arts	57.5
42. Cardiff Met	56.7
43. Plymouth College of Art	56.5
44. Coventry	55.3
45. Ulster	54.9
46. Northampton	53.8
47. Falmouth	52.6
48. Plymouth	52.5
49. Birmingham City	52.4
50. Aberystwyth	51.8
51. Leeds Arts	49.8
52. Worcester	49.7
53. Arts University Bournemouth	49.5
54. Leeds Beckett	49.4
55. Sheffield Hallam	49
56. Hertfordshire	47.8
57. Solent	46.7
58. Anglia Ruskin	45.8
59. Northumbria	45.5
60. De Montfort	45
61. Nottingham Trent	44
62. York St John	39.4
63. Salford	31.5

Forensic science

The study of the practical application of science to matters of the law, including DNA analysis and toxicology

You'll learn about investigatory, enforcement and monitoring work, including incident scene investigation, physical evidence collection, laboratory analysis of evidence and defence of testimony. You'll gain lab and fieldwork experience, including mock crime scenes and disasters. There are many specialisms, from bone and skeletal analysis to DNA analysis and toxicology. Entry requirements vary. Forensic science courses usually require A-levels in biology, chemistry or equivalent. Forensic scientists work in the criminal justice system, in local constabularies, and for companies such as Rolls-Royce, LGC Forensics and AstraZeneca. Alternatively, you could be employed by a law firm, a private forensic laboratory or an insurance company.

Rankings

1. Kent	100
2. Nottingham Trent	86.7
3. Greenwich	84.7
4. Staffordshire	84
5. Northumbria	83.3
6. West of Scotland	82.9
7. Central Lancashire	82.4
8. Lincoln	81.7
9. Huddersfield	78.8
10. Glasgow Caledonian	76.8



11. Kingston	73.6
11. Robert Gordon	73.6
13. West London	72
14. London South Bank	68.6
15. South Wales	60.2
16. De Montfort	58.9
16. Teesside	58.9
18. Canterbury Christ Church	58.7
19. Anglia Ruskin	55.9
20. Hull	46
21. Bournemouth	36.7

General engineering

A basic introduction of the application of science, maths and computing skills to solve practical problems

Engineering degrees cover all things related to developing, providing and maintaining the infrastructure, products and services society needs - from researching how to manufacture a product to building bridges. A general engineering degree is for those who want to see what it's all about before specialising. You will get a basic introduction to each discipline, developing your science, maths and computing skills to solve practical problems. Many courses are competitive and require top grades. The most selective universities require maths and physics. Further maths, computing or computer science or design technology could also prove useful. As you've kept your options open, you'll have a wide choice. There are engineers in quarries, the aerospace industry, broadcasting, even breweries. Jobs can be found in engineering firms, financial companies, local and central government and in other work that involves exercising good judgment and working in multidisciplinary teams.

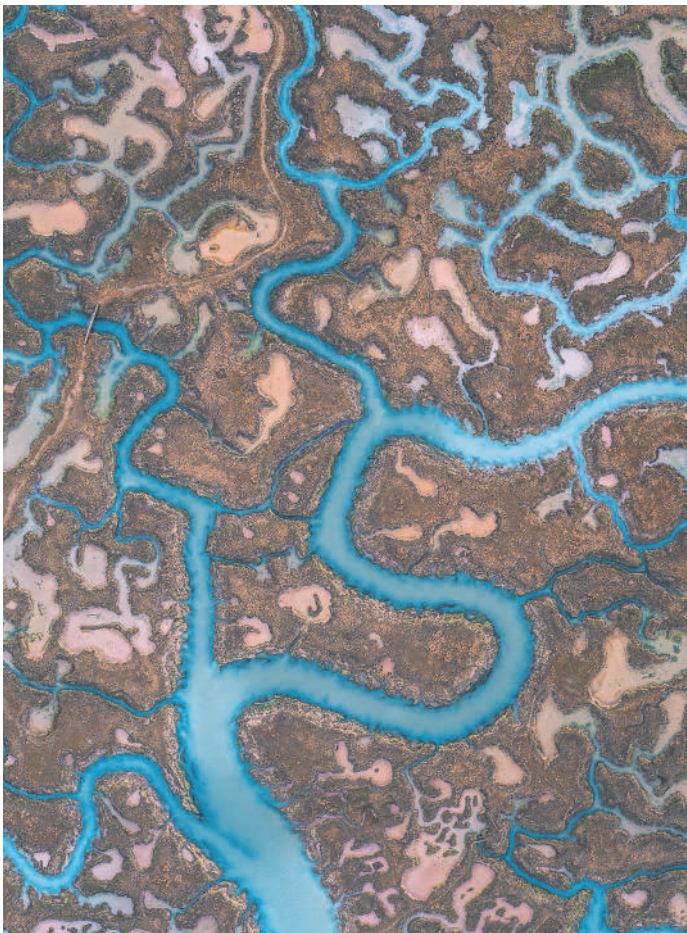


Rankings

1. Cambridge	100
2. Bristol	92.3
3. Oxford	91.3
4. Imperial College	75.6
5. Sheffield	75.2
6. King's College London	74.4
7. Exeter	72.5
8. Durham	70.5
9. Leeds	67.3
10. Loughborough	64.8

11. Nottingham Trent	62.7
12. Warwick	59
13. Aston	58.8
14. Swansea	58.7
15. Birmingham	58
16. Cardiff	53.7
17. Hull	53.2
18. Central Lancashire	49.5
19. Queen Mary	48.5
20. Ulster	44.4
21. Leicester	41.9
22. Glasgow Caledonian	40.4
23. Strathclyde	31.3

Geography



Interdisciplinary study of relationships between people, places and the planet

From debates about migration to warnings about climate breakdown, geography is increasingly relevant to our lives. There are two main disciplines: human geography, usually a BA degree, and physical geography, often a BSc.

The former focuses on where people live and how they live - from what they farm to how they are affected by globalisation. The latter explores the natural features of the Earth's surface.

Some degrees also offer the chance to study abroad.

Most geography courses require A-level (or equivalent) in geography. Biology, chemistry, maths or physics will also help your application.

Environmental science courses at the most selective universities require two A-levels (or equivalent) in biology, chemistry, maths, physics or geography.

You can pursue work

specifically related to your course, maybe in a local authority's transport department, or in an environmental consultancy. Other options include charities, NGOs and sectors including tourism and international development.

You will have a wealth of transferable skills to carry you into more general careers, maybe in IT. A degree will set you up for further study, in Earth and social sciences, or in something completely different, such as teaching or youth work.

Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	99.4
3.	London School of Economics	95.2
4.	St Andrews	90.6
5.	Gloucestershire	89.9
6.	Edinburgh	87.1
7.	Southampton	86.1
7.	UCL	86.1
9.	Loughborough	85.5
10.	Sheffield	84
11.	Royal Holloway	83.9
12.	Durham	83.7
13.	Northumbria	83
14.	UWE Bristol	80.3
15.	South Wales	80
16.	Keele	79.8
17.	Glasgow	79.4
18.	Coventry	78.9
19.	Lancaster	78.5
20.	Aberdeen	78.3
21.	Chester	78
22.	Warwick	77.9
23.	Bristol	75.3
24.	Manchester	75.1

25.	King's College London	74.5
26.	Aberystwyth	73.7
27.	Portsmouth	72.9
28.	Leeds	71.2
29.	Swansea	70.5
30.	Northampton	69.6
30.	Exeter	69.6
30.	Queen's, Belfast	69.6
33.	Leicester	69.3
34.	Reading	69
35.	Plymouth	68.6
36.	Kingston	68.5
37.	Nottingham	66.3
38.	Lincoln	66
39.	Hertfordshire	65.9
40.	Liverpool	65.6
41.	Oxford Brookes	65.2
41.	Dundee	65.2
43.	Cardiff	64.7
44.	Sussex	64.6
44.	Stirling	64.6
46.	Ulster	64.3
47.	Birmingham	63.8
48.	Newcastle	62.9
49.	Salford	62.6
50.	Worcester	61.4
51.	York	61.3
52.	Winchester	60
53.	UEA	59
54.	Bangor	58.4
55.	Liverpool Hope	57.3
56.	Manchester Met	56.4
57.	Sheffield Hallam	53
58.	York St John	52.8
58.	Hull	52.8
60.	Brighton	52.1
61.	Cumbria	48.9
62.	Queen Mary	47.5
63.	Liverpool John Moores	47.1
64.	Leeds Beckett	46.3
65.	Nottingham Trent	46.1
66.	Bournemouth	38
67.	Bath Spa	34.8

Graphic design

Study a range of design skills, including typography and branding, and current artistic thinking

Graphic design degree can help you make the leap from budding maker to creative professional, capable of producing inspiring work and surviving in a tough job sector.

From motion graphics to typography, image-making to branding, courses often require you to evolve a wide range of skills. You'll study the theory behind different areas of graphic design and be taught about the industry, how to find work, and how to build a professional portfolio. Some courses facilitate visits to international cities to experience contemporary design around the world. Expect to spend plenty of time in the studio.

Entry requirements vary, but a design-related subject at A-level (or equivalent) is often required. A foundation diploma in art and design may also help your application.

Forging a career in this area is tough, which is why universities are dedicating more and more resources to helping young artists develop entrepreneurial and business skills. You'll probably receive guidance on developing an online presence, where you can showcase your professional portfolio and find new job opportunities.

There's no fixed career route. While many graduates find full-time employment, others might set up their own business or freelance for a number of clients.

Typical employers range from big companies, such as John Lewis or Nike in their design studios, to organisations such as the National Trust.

Work can also be found via social enterprises for local community arts projects.

Rankings

1.	Loughborough	100
2.	Edinburgh	94
3.	Staffordshire	87.7
4.	Bucks New University	85.8
5.	Glasgow School of Art	85.1
6.	Reading	85
7.	Teesside	84.6
8.	Kingston	80
8.	Leeds	80
10.	Trinity Saint David	79
11.	Manchester Met	78.4
12.	University of the Arts London	77.2
13.	Northumbria	77
14.	UWE Bristol	75.9
15.	Plymouth	74.7
16.	Coventry	74.5
16.	Suffolk	74.5
18.	Leeds Arts	74.3
19.	Lincoln	73.7
20.	Dundee	73.1
21.	Nottingham Trent	72.2
22.	Ulster	72.1
23.	Central Lancashire	71.4
24.	London South Bank	71.1
25.	Edinburgh Napier	71
25.	Middlesex	71
27.	Anglia Ruskin	68.7
28.	Wolverhampton	68.5
29.	Hertfordshire	68.2
30.	Bolton	67.7
31.	South Wales	67.1
32.	Glasgow Caledonian	66.7
33.	Sunderland	66.6
34.	Norwich University of the Arts	65.6



35.	Arts University Bournemouth	65.4
36.	Birmingham City	65.1
37.	Sheffield Hallam	64.2
38.	Worcester	63
39.	London Met	62.6
40.	University for the Creative Arts	61.5
41.	West London	61
42.	Portsmouth	58.3
43.	Salford	58.2
44.	Huddersfield	58.1
45.	Falmouth	57.7
46.	Leeds Beckett	56
47.	East London	55.8
48.	Liverpool John Moores	55.2

49.	Chester	53.5
50.	Cardiff Met	53.3
51.	Gloucestershire	50.4
52.	Plymouth College of Art	50.1
53.	Southampton	50
54.	Brighton	49.3
55.	Greenwich	47.5
56.	Solent	45
57.	Abertay	42.7
58.	York St John	42.5
59.	Derby	41.9
60.	Bath Spa	41.8
61.	Westminster	36.2
62.	Ravensbourne	35.1
63.	Cumbria	33.1
64.	De Montfort	32.5



Health professions

The study of ophthalmics, the oral and aural sciences, and medical technologies, including dental prosthetics

Degrees within the health professions allow you to develop expertise in a specific area of medicine. You could study ophthalmics, radiography, and the oral and aural sciences.

Some courses require two A-levels (or equivalent) in biology, chemistry, maths or physics. You may be required to sit numeracy and literacy tests at a selection day. You will need to show a commitment to NHS constitution values.

Speech and language graduates and radiography graduates will be qualified to register with the Health and Care Professions Council and find work after graduating.

Ophthalmics graduates must go on to pre-registration training before taking final assessments and being able to register with the General Optical Council.

There are many opportunities within the NHS and wider health sector, from midwifery to sports rehabilitation.

Rankings

1.	Strathclyde	100
2.	Aston	99.6
3.	Nottingham	98
4.	Oxford Brookes	92.1
5.	Southampton	91.5
6.	Swansea	91.4
7.	South Wales	89.2
8.	Coventry	86.9
9.	Leeds	86.7
10.	Cumbria	86.3
11.	Plymouth Marjon	85.9
12.	Plymouth	85.3
13.	Cardiff	84.3
14.	Reading	83.8
15.	Northampton	82.8
16.	York St John	82.1

17.	Cardiff Met	81.5
18.	Glasgow Caledonian	81
19.	Brighton	80.2
19.	UEA	80.2
19.	Exeter	80.2
22.	Ulster	80
23.	Keele	79.9
24.	Leicester	78.7
25.	UWE Bristol	78.3
26.	City	77.8
27.	Liverpool	77.1
28.	Bolton	76.4
29.	Newcastle	75.9
30.	Manchester	74.8
31.	Liverpool John Moores	74.5
32.	Derby	73.2
33.	Northumbria	71.9
34.	Suffolk	71.6
35.	Hertfordshire	71.3
36.	Portsmouth	70.2
37.	Queen Margaret	69.4
38.	London South Bank	69
38.	Robert Gordon	69
40.	Worcester	68.5
41.	Essex	68.4
42.	Huddersfield	66.6
43.	De Montfort	65.5
44.	Salford	64.6
45.	Glyndwr	64.4
46.	Sheffield	64.1
47.	Bradford	63.3
48.	Roehampton	63.2
49.	Staffordshire	62.7
50.	Manchester Met	62.6
51.	Anglia Ruskin	61.2
52.	Teesside	60.3
53.	Greenwich	60.2
54.	Canterbury Christ Church	59.7
55.	Wolverhampton	57.1
56.	Edge Hill	55.9
57.	Birmingham City	54.9
58.	Bucks New University	54.2
59.	Brunel	53.2
60.	St George's	52.6
61.	Sheffield Hallam	51
62.	Bournemouth	50
63.	Middlesex	48.6
64.	Leeds Beckett	46.8
65.	Hull	46.1
66.	St Mary's, Twickenham	44
67.	Bangor	43.9
68.	East London	43.8
69.	Central Lancashire	35.3

History

The study of the past: politics, economics, culture, religion, society and gender issues

History is everything human beings have done in the past, individually and collectively.

Degrees examine politics, economics, culture, religion, society, and race and gender issues. Whatever periods you choose to study, whether it's the Tudors or the 20th century, you are likely to touch on all these themes. If you want to tailor a course to your interests, however, it is worth researching the core and optional modules available at the university.

Most courses expect history at A-level (or equivalent). Other subjects which might help your application include economics, English literature, philosophy, politics, sociology, theology or religious studies, or a modern or classical language.

A history degree is an excellent foundation from which to launch a career. Your attention to detail, ability to gather and assess information, and the knowledge of how to present facts concisely will make you popular in a wide range of professions. These include law, accountancy, management, the civil service, diplomatic services, business, PR, journalism and the media.

You would also be well placed to take a postgraduate teaching qualification if you want to inspire the next generation.

Rankings

1.	St Andrews	100
2.	Oxford	95.3
3.	Cambridge	89.7
4.	Durham	86
5.	London School of Economics	85.5
6.	Suffolk	83
7.	UCL	82.6
8.	Warwick	77.4
9.	Bournemouth	74.8
10.	UEA	73.8
11.	Roehampton	73.2
12.	Hull	73
13.	Queen Mary	71.6
14.	York	71.2
15.	Keele	71.1
15.	Aberdeen	71.1
17.	Swansea	70.9
18.	Newman	70.4
19.	Southampton	70
19.	Leicester	70
21.	Lancaster	69.8
22.	Edge Hill	69.7
23.	Huddersfield	69.5
24.	Leeds Beckett	68.9
25.	Manchester	68.8
26.	Leeds	68.7
27.	King's College London	68.3
28.	Sheffield	68.2
29.	Northumbria	68
30.	Sussex	67.4
31.	Anglia Ruskin	67.3
32.	Royal Holloway	67.1
33.	Edinburgh	66.8
34.	Bristol	66.3
35.	Chichester	66.2
36.	Exeter	66
37.	Bangor	65.6
37.	Coventry	65.6
39.	Derby	64.6
40.	Lincoln	64.2
41.	Teesside	63.8
42.	Kent	63.3
43.	St Mary's, Twickenham	63.1

43.	Liverpool John Moores	63.1
45.	Glasgow	63
46.	Liverpool Hope	62.2
46.	Chester	62.2
46.	Aberystwyth	62.2
49.	Nottingham Trent	61.4
50.	Strathclyde	60.9
51.	Reading	60.8
52.	Loughborough	60.4
53.	City	60.3
54.	Ulster	59.8
55.	Essex	58.7
56.	Brighton	58.3
56.	Liverpool	58.3
58.	Oxford Brookes	57.8
58.	Birmingham	57.8
58.	Sheffield Hallam	57.8
61.	Salford	57.6
62.	Westminster	57.5
63.	Gloucestershire	57.2
64.	Queen's, Belfast	57
65.	Nottingham	56.3
66.	Newcastle	55.8
67.	Northampton	55.5
68.	Goldsmiths	54.8
68.	Brunel	54.8
70.	Plymouth	53.1
71.	Cardiff	53
72.	Dundee	52.9
73.	Portsmouth	52.3
74.	Wolverhampton	52.2
75.	Manchester Met	50.5
76.	SOAS	49.9
77.	Canterbury Christ Church	49.2
78.	De Montfort	48.8
79.	York St John	48.6
80.	Greenwich	47.5
81.	Stirling	44.8
81.	UWE Bristol	44.8
83.	Winchester	44.1
84.	Central Lancashire	42.5
85.	Bath Spa	42.1
86.	Highlands & Islands	40.9
87.	South Wales	32.6
88.	Worcester	31.4



Explore the world's first prospectus delivered exclusively on Instagram



Check out our main account **@aub_prospectus**, scan the QR code or visit **aub.ac.uk/prospectus**



ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH



History of art

The historical study of developments in art, in terms of methods and critical reception

History of art students learn about the major works and texts in art history. As well as examining how interpretations of individual pieces of art have altered over time, students will consider wider questions, such as changing historical conceptions of art and the artist. Some courses focus purely on western art; others embrace a range of cultures. Some adopt a broader definition of the term art, including adverts, websites and the body. Most courses focus on a specific movement or period. You'll likely have to undertake a fair amount of independent learning.

Students are taught through lectures, seminars and museum visits. Many courses run trips to galleries overseas or offer the chance to spend one year of their degree at a university abroad. Assessment will be mostly coursework-based, but may also involve exams. Entry requirements vary, but A-levels (or equivalent) in art, English literature, history, theology/religious studies, history of art, French, German, Spanish or Italian are likely to help. Despite not being

particularly vocational, history of art degrees are highly regarded for the skills you'll pick up - from using your critical judgement to formulate arguments to analysis, interpretation and presentation of information. It's competitive, but graduates find work as administrators, archivists, art historians, events managers, exhibitions officers or curators. Many find careers in marketing, sales and PR. Others pursue their interest through education by becoming a teacher or progressing to academic research, or through journalism. There are opportunities to work as auctioneers, librarians or picture researchers.

Rankings		
1.	St Andrews	100
2.	Cambridge	93.6
3.	Glasgow	84.3
4.	Sussex	65.8
5.	UCL	63.4
6.	Birmingham	63
7.	Warwick	62.3
8.	Kent	58.1
9.	Courtauld Institute	56.5
10.	York	54.4
11.	Nottingham	50.4
12.	Edinburgh	49.9
13.	Manchester	49.3
14.	Leeds	49.2
15.	Oxford Brookes	48.3
16.	Exeter	45.1
17.	Goldsmiths	43.4
18.	UEA	37.1
19.	Brighton	31.5
20.	Bristol	30.3
21.	Glasgow School of Art	27.6

Hospitality, event management and tourism

Learn how to provide food, drink and accommodation in a service context, and manage one-off events

Hospitality students focus on running hotels, restaurants, catering businesses and events. On event management courses the emphasis is on: how do you plan and run events, from a small wedding to the Super Bowl? Tourism students learn how to manage the movement of people around the planet, and think about the economic, environmental and social impacts of doing this. Most universities expect English and maths GCSE at grade C or above. All three courses produce entrepreneurial graduates capable of setting up their own businesses. Hospitality graduates might work in a hotel, restaurant or as a catering manager. Events specialists might work as events consultants or venue marketing coordinators. For tourism, the obvious career path is becoming a tour operator.



Rankings		
1.	De Montfort	100
2.	Lincoln	91.1
3.	Derby	88.7
4.	Chester	88.6
5.	Surrey	87.6
6.	Sheffield Hallam	87.1
7.	Edinburgh Napier	83.4
8.	Ulster	81.8
9.	Leeds Beckett	81.3
10.	Cardiff Met	80.2
11.	Gloucestershire	79.5
12.	Essex	79.3
13.	Sunderland	79.1
14.	Canterbury Christ Church	78.4
15.	Central Lancashire	76.4

16.	Northampton	75.7
17.	Manchester Met	75.5
17.	Huddersfield	75.5
19.	Greenwich	74.3
20.	Glasgow Caledonian	74.1
21.	Liverpool John Moores	72.7
22.	Coventry	72.5
23.	Arts University Bournemouth	71.8
24.	Birmingham City	70.9
25.	Oxford Brookes	70.7
26.	Highlands & Islands	69
27.	Robert Gordon	68.8
28.	Bucks New University	67.8
29.	UWE Bristol	67.3
30.	West London	67
31.	Winchester	64.8
31.	Northumbria	64.8
33.	Middlesex	63.5
34.	Trinity Saint David	61.8
34.	Plymouth	61.8
36.	Bournemouth	61.1
37.	Anglia Ruskin	59.6
38.	Queen Margaret	59.3
39.	Chichester	57.1
40.	Westminster	56.7
41.	Hertfordshire	53
42.	Staffordshire	49.9
43.	London Met	48.6
44.	Brighton	45.5
45.	West of Scotland	43.5
46.	East London	36.5
47.	London South Bank	35.4
48.	Salford	34.7

Interior design

The study of design and space, in residential, architectural and commercial environments

Interior design is a huge industry. Most courses cover a range of scenarios, including residential, architectural and commercial projects, such as the leisure industry or retail. The aim of the degree is to produce professional graduates who are ready to enter the workplace as interior designers. You will be taught how to communicate your ideas by hand-drawing and computer-aided design (CAD), and how to produce visualisations to give a 3D sense of the interior space. Most degrees on campus are built around a studio. As well as learning design, students are taught to communicate ideas and manipulate space, use colour and materials, and consider what is appropriate in different environments.



Most universities require three A-levels, in subjects such as art, design, humanities and social sciences. Some might expect you to submit a portfolio of work. For jobs, the first port of call will be an interior design agency. But you could also find work in an architectural firm, set up in business as an interior designer, work for companies that specialise in furniture or kitchen design, or get a job in set design.

Rankings		
1.	Kingston	100
2.	UWE Bristol	90.1
3.	London Met	89.8
4.	Nottingham Trent	87.8
5.	University of the Arts London	84.5
6.	Plymouth College of Art	84.3
7.	Northumbria	82.8
8.	Middlesex	82.7
9.	Manchester Met	81.7
10.	Coventry	79.6
11.	Sheffield Hallam	75.2
12.	Solent	71.6
13.	Birmingham City	70.4
14.	Portsmouth	69
14.	University for the Creative Arts	69
16.	Cardiff Met	68.7
17.	Arts University Bournemouth	65.7
18.	Salford	62.4
19.	Bath Spa	51.7
20.	Huddersfield	51.5
21.	Falmouth	50.4
22.	East London	48.2
23.	Leeds Beckett	46.7
24.	De Montfort	45.7
25.	Hertfordshire	34.9

International relations



Study of the changing nature of inter-state relations. Includes diplomacy and security

International relations is about helping students understand the world they live in. It covers war and security, diplomacy and development, globalisation and global power relations, communication and resistance, race and gender, and terrorism and climate change. Sociology and politics A-levels help applications, as do humanities and social sciences. An essay-based subject at A-Level is also useful. Students may go on to write policy papers and briefings, and work in embassies and the civil service. Journalism, the charity sector, think tanks and local government are options, too.

Rankings		
1.	St Andrews	100
2.	King's College London	80.5
3.	Warwick	66.2
4.	Aberdeen	64.3
5.	SOAS	59.9
6.	Aston	54.3
7.	Coventry	53.5
8.	Manchester	53
9.	Sheffield	51.9
9.	Edinburgh	51.9
11.	Loughborough	51.2
12.	Cardiff	49.5
13.	Essex	49.3
14.	Southampton	49.1
15.	Durham	47
16.	UEA	46.3
17.	Leeds	46.2
18.	Kent	43.6
19.	York	43.5
20.	East London	40.6
21.	Swansea	40.4
22.	Lincoln	40.3
22.	Sussex	40.3
24.	Reading	40
25.	Nottingham	38.8
26.	Birmingham	37
27.	Northumbria	34.7
28.	Queen Mary	34.2
29.	Royal Holloway	33.7
30.	London Met	33.4
31.	Leicester	31.2
32.	Oxford Brookes	30.9
33.	Portsmouth	30.8
34.	Lancaster	29.4
35.	Westminster	29.3
35.	Greenwich	29.3
37.	Nottingham Trent	27.8
38.	Liverpool	25.3
39.	Leeds Beckett	25.1
40.	Plymouth	24.4
41.	Manchester Met	22.5
42.	De Montfort	21.7



Journalism

Study how information is produced and distributed editorially, from newspaper reporting to social media

From television and radio to newspapers and magazines, websites and social media, journalism plays an important role in giving information to the general public. You will learn about editorial processes, design, marketing and business, covering anything from magazines to digital texts. Some departments have a particularly strong reputation within the industry. You'll be taught through a mixture of lectures, seminars and practical work. Most of your time will be dedicated to interviewing, writing, editing, tweeting and filming - and perhaps practising shorthand.

English and maths are likely to help your application. Admissions tutors will want evidence that you're committed to your subject; starting up a blog, building a social media presence or developing a portfolio could really help you stand out. There are a handful of opportunities on local or regional papers and local radio stations, while some nationals run sought-after graduate trainee schemes. There are typically more roles available on professional or business-to-business magazines, and freelancing is a popular route. Find out if your course is NCTJ accredited as this may affect your ability to apply for certain reporting jobs. Journalism graduates often start as editorial assistants, desk editors or copy editors. There are also opportunities in design, production, marketing, sales and rights.

Rankings		
1.	City	100
2.	Oxford Brookes	93.7
3.	Edinburgh Napier	87.4
4.	University for the Creative Arts	86.5
5.	Sheffield	81.9
6.	Portsmouth	81.6
7.	Leeds	73.2
8.	Sheffield Hallam	73
9.	Cardiff	70.9
10.	Coventry	70.6
11.	Roehampton	69.9
12.	Bournemouth	68.9
13.	Sunderland	68.3
14.	Central Lancashire	68.1
15.	London South Bank	67.8
16.	Lincoln	67.3
17.	Leeds Trinity	65.7
18.	Gloucestershire	65.5
18.	UWE Bristol	65.5
20.	Staffordshire	64.7
21.	Stirling	64.5
22.	Westminster	63.9
23.	Derby	63.2
24.	Manchester Met	62.1
25.	Robert Gordon	61.3
26.	Solent	60.3
27.	Newcastle	60.1
28.	Bath Spa	60
28.	Nottingham Trent	60
30.	Kingston	59.5
31.	Salford	59.2
32.	Goldsmiths	59
33.	Canterbury Christ Church	58.4
34.	Liverpool John Moores	56.4
35.	Northumbria	54.4
36.	Teesside	53.9
37.	University of the Arts London	53.8
38.	Leeds Beckett	53.4
39.	East London	48.6
40.	Huddersfield	48.4
40.	Sussex	48.4
42.	Brighton	44.2
43.	Northampton	43.2
44.	Kent	40.4
45.	South Wales	40.1
46.	Ulster	39.6
47.	De Montfort	38.6
48.	Hertfordshire	35.9
49.	Birmingham City	30.8

Languages and linguistics

Learn to speak and write in another language, along with literature, history, culture and politics

With pressing world issues and globalisation, language specialists in the UK are needed now more than ever. Plenty of institutions offer courses in the modern classics - French, Spanish, German, Italian - as well as those once considered niche in the UK: Mandarin, Arabic, Japanese and some of the African languages, such as Swahili. And, of course, there

are courses in Welsh and Gaelic. Having an A-level (or equivalent) in your chosen language(s) is helpful but not always essential. Another foreign language A-level, English literature, history and politics could all boost your application. Fluency in another language will make you a highly desirable employee, as well as giving you an invaluable life skill. Obvious career routes are translating, interpreting and teaching roles. Other options include working in the diplomatic or civil service, maybe in the Foreign Office. Graduates will also be favoured in business and legal institutions, and any company that trades or offers services internationally.



Rankings		
1.	Oxford	100
2.	St Andrews	99.3
3.	Cambridge	93.8
4.	Surrey	83.7
5.	Sheffield Hallam	83.2
6.	Durham	83
7.	Aberystwyth	82.7
8.	Hull	82.1
9.	Bristol	82
10.	Swansea	81.6
11.	UCL	81.4
12.	Bath	80.2
13.	Warwick	78.5
14.	Southampton	76.7
15.	Coventry	76.2
16.	Queen's, Belfast	74.7
16.	Nottingham Trent	74.7
18.	Aberdeen	73.8
18.	Leicester	73.8
20.	Edinburgh	73.6
21.	Reading	72.7
21.	Lancaster	72.7
23.	Leeds	72.2
24.	King's College London	70.7
25.	Chester	69.5
26.	Queen Mary	69.3
27.	Cardiff	69.1
28.	Bangor	69
28.	Liverpool	69
30.	Newcastle	68.3
31.	Manchester	68.2
32.	Sussex	68.1
33.	Kent	67.8
34.	Glasgow	67.7
35.	UEA	67.6
35.	Nottingham	67.6
37.	Exeter	67
38.	Birmingham	64.1
38.	Heriot-Watt	64.1
40.	Stirling	62.6
41.	Sheffield	61.8
42.	York	61.1
43.	Aston	60
44.	Strathclyde	59.5
45.	Royal Holloway	56.8
46.	Westminster	56.5
47.	SOAS	52
48.	Essex	50
49.	Manchester Met	48.5
50.	Central Lancashire	48.1
51.	Portsmouth	45.2
52.	Oxford Brookes	36.3
53.	Ulster	34.6

Law

The study of criminal legal systems. Includes criminology and jurisprudence

A law degree will give you an understanding of how the legal system operates in England and Wales, Scotland or Ireland. Compulsory modules for a qualifying law degree include criminal law, contract law, land law, EU law and constitutional law. But students can also expect to study a wide range of additional legal specialisms.

Those aspiring to become a qualified lawyer usually need to have taken the foundation legal subjects as part of their law degree before proceeding to a vocational qualification and training with a law firm or in a barrister's chambers.

The most popular law degrees will ask for high grades. Few will expect you to have studied law at school or college but may want to see that you've developed essay-writing skills. A good spread of subjects at A-level can be useful.

After passing your professional qualifications, you can compete for a job as a solicitor in a law firm, or as a barrister.

You will also have a healthy skillset for outside the practising legal sector, including the ability to communicate, research and process information.

Rankings		
1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	99.6
3.	London School of Economics	96.9
4.	UCL	96.6
5.	Glasgow	88
6.	Durham	87.6
7.	King's College London	87.1
8.	Edinburgh	83.9
9.	Warwick	83.5
10.	Queen Mary	83.2
11.	Aberdeen	81.7
12.	Dundee	81.4
13.	Leeds	81.1
14.	Cumbria	81
15.	Leicester	78.6
16.	Edinburgh Napier	78.5
17.	Bristol	78.3
18.	UEA	77.8
19.	Lancaster	77.7
20.	Worcester	77.5
21.	Buckingham	77.4
22.	York	77.1
23.	Manchester	77
24.	Kent	76.9
25.	London Met	76.8
26.	Southampton	76
27.	Birmingham	75.7
28.	Newcastle	75.6
28.	Solent	75.6
30.	Queen's, Belfast	74.4
31.	Leeds Trinity	74.1
32.	Aston	73.3
33.	Cardiff	72.9
34.	Swansea	72.5
34.	Sunderland	72.5
36.	Bangor	72.4
37.	Exeter	72.3
38.	Nottingham	72.1
39.	Stirling	71.7
40.	Strathclyde	71.6



40.	SOAS	71.6	64.	Sheffield Hallam	65.5	85.	Brighton	59
42.	Keele	71.4	64.	Bucks New University	65.5	87.	Bournemouth	57.9
43.	Bolton	71.3	66.	UWE Bristol	65.3	88.	Wolverhampton	57.3
43.	Surrey	71.3	67.	Hull	65	89.	Birmingham City	56.9
45.	Essex	71.2	68.	Portsmouth	64.9	90.	Aberystwyth	56.6
46.	South Wales	70.8	69.	De Montfort	64.1	91.	Kingston	56.2
47.	Central Lancashire	70.7	70.	London South Bank	64	92.	Salford	55.7
48.	Ulster	70.5	71.	Hertfordshire	63.2	92.	Anglia Ruskin	55.7
49.	Gloucestershire	70.4	72.	Chester	63.1	94.	Canterbury Christ Church	55.5
50.	Northumbria	70.1	73.	Lincoln	62.9	95.	Leeds Beckett	54.5
51.	Liverpool	69.8	74.	Nottingham Trent	62.6	95.	Staffordshire	54.5
52.	Reading	69.2	75.	St Mary's, Twickenham	61.5	97.	Huddersfield	54.3
53.	Sheffield	69.1	75.	Manchester Met	61.5	98.	East London	53.5
54.	Oxford Brookes	68.6	77.	Robert Gordon	61.4	99.	Liverpool John Moores	53.1
55.	West London	67	78.	Royal Holloway	60.7	100.	Middlesex	51.5
55.	Plymouth	67	79.	Greenwich	60.2	101.	Brunel	50.2
57.	Sussex	66.8	80.	Suffolk	60.1	102.	Liverpool Hope	50.1
58.	Bradford	66.7	81.	Roehampton	60	103.	Coventry	50
58.	City	66.7	82.	Teesside	59.6	104.	Winchester	49.3
60.	Abertay	66.4	83.	Northampton	59.5	105.	West of Scotland	38.3
60.	Derby	66.4	84.	Westminster	59.4	106.	Bedfordshire	34.3
62.	York St John	66.3	85.	Edge Hill	59			
62.	Glasgow Caledonian	66.3						

Marketing and public relations

Understand how brands communicate ideas, products and services to diverse audiences

Public relations students will touch on topics such as editorial processes, design and business, covering magazines to digital texts. There will be modules on understanding the media landscape, developing writing skills and using social media to mount campaigns. Courses will often focus on reputation management - something increasingly central to organisations and powerful individuals. You will discover

how brands communicate ideas, products and services to diverse audiences, and how reputations are formed and maintained in a digital environment. Marketing degrees have some of the most flexible entry requirements. There are lots of routes in, so any combination of A-levels with good grades should be enough. PR graduates have opportunities in commercial, government and public sector organisations. Some work in-house for one large organisation; others are employed by an agency and provide services for clients. Marketing often leads to a career in social media, digital marketing, advertising or PR.



Ranking		
1.	Lancaster	100
2.	Stirling	86.7
3.	Derby	86.3
4.	Southampton	84.4
5.	City	84.3
6.	UEA	81.7
7.	Leeds	81.4
8.	Lincoln	81.2
9.	Plymouth	80.9
10.	Durham	80

11.	Sheffield Hallam	79.9	40.	Chester	64.3
12.	Glasgow Caledonian	79.4	41.	Keele	64
13.	Strathclyde	78.2	42.	Swansea	61.7
14.	South Wales	77.6	43.	West London	61
15.	Manchester	75.8	44.	Greenwich	60
16.	Newcastle	75.6	45.	Bournemouth	59.2
17.	Liverpool	74.7	46.	Central Lancashire	57.8
18.	Huddersfield	74.3	47.	Manchester Met	57.4
19.	Sunderland	73.5	48.	Essex	56.3
20.	Surrey	71.4	49.	Leicester	55.9
21.	Nottingham Trent	71.2	50.	Cardiff Met	55.1
22.	Northumbria	71.1	51.	Roehampton	54.2
23.	Coventry	69.3	52.	Liverpool John Moores	54.1
24.	University of the Arts London	68.5	53.	Gloucestershire	53.6
25.	Reading	68.1	54.	Birmingham City	52.4
26.	Kingston	68	55.	Goldsmiths	50.9
27.	Hull	67.7	56.	Westminster	48.6
28.	Edinburgh Napier	67.5	57.	Falmouth	48.2
29.	London South Bank	67	58.	Brighton	46.9
30.	Oxford Brookes	66.7	59.	Canterbury Christ Church	46.2
31.	Middlesex	66.4	60.	Northampton	45.5
32.	Ulster	66.3	61.	London Met	44.9
32.	Sussex	66.3	62.	De Montfort	44.6
34.	Aston	66.1	63.	Solent	43.9
35.	Leeds Beckett	66	64.	Winchester	43.6
36.	UWE Bristol	65.6	65.	East London	34.2
37.	Portsmouth	65.5	66.	West of Scotland	33.9
38.	Hertfordshire	65.4	67.	Wolverhampton	32.3
39.	Kent	65			

Mathematics



The study of quantities through analysis, deduction and calculation - including operational research stats

Familiar with fractals? Study a degree in maths and you soon will be. Broadly speaking, maths degrees should give you the basic ideas of pure mathematics (linear algebra, geometry, etc), applied mathematics (calculus, mathematical methods, modelling and numerical analysis), and statistics (including probability and operational research).

Selective universities require maths, and sometimes further maths. Physics and computing or computer science are likely to be useful. Entry levels vary, but remember: your maths degree programme may be a challenging step up from A-level study.

Mathematics graduates often gravitate towards a career in industry, business and commerce, where employers will value their reasoning along with their problem-solving skills. Salaries are competitive.

Ranking

1.	Oxford	100	33.	Greenwich	64.3
2.	St Andrews	99.9	34.	Sheffield Hallam	64.1
3.	Imperial College	93.5	35.	Reading	63.8
4.	Cambridge	86.7	36.	Kent	62.5
5.	Glasgow	83.6	37.	Liverpool	
6.	Edinburgh	81.3		John Moores	62.2
7.	London School of Economics	81.1	38.	Lincoln	60.5
8.	Warwick	80.8	39.	Aston	59.4
9.	Stirling	80.6	40.	Portsmouth	58.1
10.	Bath	78.6	41.	De Montfort	57.6
11.	Durham	78.1	41.	Dundee	57.6
12.	Bristol	77.7	41.	Manchester	57.6
13.	Loughborough	76.8	44.	Nottingham	56.3
14.	Keele	76.4	45.	Queen's, Belfast	56.1
15.	Plymouth	76.3	46.	Leeds	55.9
16.	Lancaster	75.4	47.	Queen Mary	55.5
17.	UCL	75.3	48.	Leicester	55.3
17.	South Wales	75.3	48.	Coventry	55.3
19.	UWE Bristol	74.7	50.	Brighton	54
20.	Birmingham	73.9	51.	Hull	53.8
21.	Northumbria	73.8	52.	Hertfordshire	52.7
22.	Heriot-Watt	73.3	53.	Sussex	51.5
23.	Derby	71.1	54.	Manchester Met	47.8
24.	Liverpool	70.6	55.	Cardiff	47.4
25.	Surrey	70.4	56.	Newcastle	45.6
26.	Essex	70	57.	Sheffield	45.4
27.	Swansea	69.4	58.	Nottingham Trent	45.1
28.	UEA	69	59.	Aberdeen	45
29.	Aberystwyth	68.8	59.	Royal Holloway	45
30.	Southampton	67	61.	City	42
31.	York	65.9	62.	Brunel	41.8
32.	Exeter	64.8	63.	Strathclyde	39.8
			64.	Kingston	38.6
			65.	King's College London	32.2

Mechanical engineering

The analysis, design, manufacturing and maintenance of mechanical systems

If you're interested in vehicle design, robotics, artificial intelligence, nanotechnology or sustainable energy, this could be the degree for you.

Mechanical engineering degrees provide an understanding of core concepts, such as thermodynamics, materials science and structural analysis, using tools such as computer-aided engineering to analyse problems and find practical solutions.

Entry requirements vary, but it's worth remembering that mechanical engineering is considered one of the most challenging courses. The most selective universities will require maths and often physics.

Further maths, chemistry, design and technology, electronics, ICT and computing or computer science could also prove useful.

The specialist skills you acquire, plus a host of transferable ones, means you shouldn't have too much

of a problem finding work in engineering or beyond. Mechanical engineers are required across most sectors of the workforce, and especially in future-proof industries such as automation, renewable energy and artificial intelligence.

Mechanical engineers are also vital to the car industry, the oil and gas and renewable energies industries, IT and finance, music technology and medical engineering.

You should be able to shape a career to suit your interests.

Ranking

1.	Imperial College	100
2.	Bath	93
3.	Southampton	89
4.	Loughborough	86.7
5.	Sheffield	86.2
6.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	85.7
7.	Bristol	84.9
8.	Leeds	83.2
9.	Coventry	82.9
10.	Exeter	82.4
11.	UCL	82.1
12.	Teesside	81
13.	Edinburgh	80.4
14.	Sussex	80.2
15.	Lancaster	80.1
16.	London South Bank	79.4
17.	Harper Adams	78.9
17.	Liverpool	78.9
19.	Birmingham	77.6

19.	Aston	77.6
21.	Strathclyde	77.3
22.	Manchester	77
23.	Glasgow	76.8
24.	Ulster	76
25.	UWE Bristol	75.4
26.	Cardiff	75.3
27.	Portsmouth	75.1
28.	Trinity Saint David	74.1
29.	Hull	73.5
30.	Swansea	73.4
31.	East London	73.2
31.	Nottingham Trent	73.2
33.	Solent	73
34.	Nottingham	71.7
35.	Bradford	71.6
35.	Robert Gordon	71.6
37.	Oxford Brookes	71
38.	Dundee	69.6
38.	Queen's, Belfast	69.6
40.	Lincoln	68.5
41.	Northumbria	68.3
42.	Newcastle	67.7
43.	Manchester Met	67.5
44.	Surrey	66.8
45.	Heriot-Watt	66.5
46.	Bolton	66.1
47.	Derby	65.6
48.	Brunel	65.1
49.	Greenwich	65
50.	Bournemouth	64.3
51.	Hertfordshire	63.8
52.	Huddersfield	63.6
53.	Salford	62.5
54.	Plymouth	62
54.	Sheffield Hallam	62
56.	Glasgow Caledonian	61.3
57.	Anglia Ruskin	60.3
58.	Brighton	58.7
59.	Sunderland	58.3
60.	City	57.9
61.	De Montfort	57.5
62.	Wolverhampton	55
63.	Edinburgh Napier	52.3
64.	Birmingham City	51.9
65.	Kingston	49.6
66.	Staffordshire	35.8





Media and film studies

The study of media communication - through cinema, broadcasting and the press

Most film/media studies degrees take a theoretical line, developing an understanding of how we communicate, and how that fits into a cultural, political and historical context.

A-levels in English language/literature, sociology, psychology, media studies or drama may help your application.

If you want to work in TV, journalism or broadcasting, you'll need to apply for work placements during your summer holidays. Media-savvy graduates also find opportunities in publishing, PR, marketing, advertising and teaching.

Ranking

1.	Warwick	100
2.	Cardiff	96.1
3.	Loughborough	91
4.	Derby	88.8
5.	Queen Mary	88.6
6.	Leeds	87.6
7.	Teesside	87.4
8.	Stirling	84.9
9.	Lancaster	83.8
10.	Exeter	83.5
11.	Sunderland	83.4
12.	Southampton	83.1
13.	Coventry	82.1
14.	Kingston	81.7
15.	Aberystwyth	81.3
15.	King's College London	81.3
17.	Newcastle	80.2
18.	Royal Holloway	77.1
19.	UEA	76.5
20.	Chichester	76.1
21.	Solent	75.8
22.	Edinburgh Napier	75.1
23.	Canterbury Christ Church	74.9
24.	Huddersfield	74.5
25.	Staffordshire	73.9
26.	Anglia Ruskin	72.3

27.	Westminster	71.6
28.	Swansea	71.5
29.	Queen's, Belfast	71.3
30.	York St John	70.8
31.	Birmingham City	70
32.	Leeds Beckett	69.8
33.	Manchester Met	69.2
34.	Gloucestershire	68.9
34.	York	68.9
36.	Leicester	68.7
37.	Keele	68.6
38.	Northampton	68.4
39.	University of the Arts London	68.2
40.	East London	68
41.	Bath Spa	67.9
42.	Hull	67
43.	Sheffield Hallam	66.9
44.	South Wales	66.3
45.	Worcester	66.2
46.	Bournemouth	65.9
47.	Salford	65.8
48.	Falmouth	65.5
49.	Northumbria	65.4
50.	Kent	65.3
51.	Oxford Brookes	65.2
52.	Surrey	65.1
53.	Liverpool John Moores	64.7
54.	Robert Gordon	64.3
55.	Liverpool	61.4
56.	Lincoln	61.3
57.	Ulster	61
58.	Central Lancashire	60.5
59.	Goldsmiths	60.3
60.	London South Bank	60.2
61.	Sussex	59.7
62.	Liverpool Hope	58.3
63.	Edge Hill	57.9
64.	Leeds Trinity	55.3
64.	Roehampton	55.3
66.	UWE Bristol	53
67.	Bradford	52.9
67.	Nottingham	52.9
69.	Portsmouth	51.8
70.	Queen Margaret	50.5
71.	De Montfort	50.4
72.	Nottingham Trent	49.3
73.	Winchester	48.8
74.	West of Scotland	45.2
74.	Brighton	45.2
76.	Bedfordshire	44.3
77.	Brunel	40.5
77.	Middlesex	40.5
79.	Greenwich	40.2
80.	London Met	40
81.	Bangor	33.6

Mental health nursing

The study of mental health problems in fields including personality disorders and psychosis

As a society, we are talking more openly about mental health and there has been an increase in applicants who want to become a mental health nurse. It truly is a job where you can give something back to society. You will work in environments including hospitals, the community and acute settings.

The most important A-level requirement is biology. You may need at least one of the following at A-level (or equivalent): biology, chemistry, psychology, health and social care, applied science. Apprenticeships are available for all fields of nursing.

Employability is really high. Most graduates go on to work in the NHS, but others find positions overseas, in private practice, the social services, the pharmaceutical industry, the armed forces, the prison service or in specialist areas, such as drug rehabilitation. Universities work in partnership with local NHS Foundation trusts, so you should think about how this might impact your experience.

Rankings

1.	Coventry	100
2.	Kingston	96.9
3.	Bucks New University	95.2
4.	London South Bank	88.8
5.	Northampton	87.9
6.	Southampton	87.5
7.	West London	86.9
8.	Wolverhampton	86.5
9.	Middlesex	85.2
10.	Manchester	84.9
11.	Derby	83.7
12.	Hertfordshire	83.5
13.	Keele	83.3
14.	City	81.7
15.	Queen's, Belfast	81.4
16.	Essex	81.1
16.	Swansea	81.1
18.	Manchester Met	80.1
19.	Canterbury Christ Church	79.5
20.	Hull	78
21.	Staffordshire	77.7
22.	Cardiff	77
23.	Bangor	76.9
24.	Plymouth	76.3
25.	Chester	75
26.	Portsmouth	74.6
27.	De Montfort	73.5
27.	UWE Bristol	73.5
29.	Ulster	73.1
30.	Surrey	72.6
31.	Leeds	72.3
32.	Edge Hill	72.1
33.	Huddersfield	71.3
34.	Anglia Ruskin	71
35.	Lincoln	70.6
36.	Bradford	69.9



37.	Glasgow Caledonian	69.5
37.	Greenwich	69.5
39.	Northumbria	69.3
40.	Nottingham	68.8
41.	Birmingham City	68.2
42.	Bournemouth	66.9
43.	Gloucestershire	66.4
43.	Sheffield Hallam	66.4
45.	Salford	64.2
46.	West of Scotland	63.7
47.	UEA	63.4
48.	Leeds Beckett	63
49.	Teesside	62.4
50.	Sunderland	61.7
51.	Liverpool John Moores	60.5
52.	Cumbria	60.4
52.	King's College London	60.4
54.	Dundee	60
55.	Stirling	58.8
56.	Central Lancashire	58.7
57.	Suffolk	58.3
58.	Worcester	57.7
59.	Abertay	56.2
60.	Brighton	53.4
61.	Robert Gordon	52.1
62.	Edinburgh Napier	36.6

Medicine

Study to become a doctor by learning how to maintain health, diagnose diseases and treat them

Medicine degrees are for those ready to make a long-term commitment to becoming a doctor. You'll spend five years at university (four if you're on a graduate course), then you'll work with patients.

If you have good A-levels in chemistry, biology, maths and physics, all the medical schools should be open to you. Work experience in a health or social care setting will help your application.

After graduation you'll begin a two-year training programme in a hospital. You'll then train to work in a specific field, maybe surgery or general practice.

Ranking

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Aberdeen	97.2
3.	Edinburgh	97
4.	Imperial College	96.6
5.	St Andrews	94.2
6.	Oxford	93
7.	Swansea	92.2
8.	Brighton Sussex Medical School	90.5
9.	Keele	87.2
10.	Glasgow	84.9
11.	Dundee	83.1
12.	Bristol	82.3
13.	Liverpool	79.6
14.	Hull York Medical School	76.5
15.	Cardiff	76.2
16.	Leicester	75.1
17.	Newcastle	74.7
18.	UCL	74.1
19.	Leeds	73.7
20.	Queen Mary	73.6
21.	Queen's, Belfast	73.2
22.	UEA	71.5
23.	Exeter	70.7



24.	Lancaster	65.2
25.	Plymouth	64.4
26.	King's College London	63.4
27.	Birmingham	63.3
28.	Southampton	63.1
29.	Warwick	62.4
30.	Manchester	61
31.	Sheffield	60.5
32.	Aston	54.2
33.	Buckingham	49.1
34.	Nottingham	47.5
35.	St George's	38.1
36.	Anglia Ruskin	37.8
37.	Central Lancashire	36.5

Midwifery



Help to deliver babies and learn how they develop. Learn to care for women before and after childbirth

Midwifery is one of the most rewarding careers out there. During your training, you'll learn how babies develop, how to help deliver them, and how to support women and their families during and after pregnancy. You will be equipped with the skills, knowledge and professional insight needed to become a registered midwife. Students spend 50% of their time in real placements, in partnership with real clients. The course is designed to teach and prepare you for everything you might face as a midwife, so expect to step out of your comfort zone on a regular basis. You will write essays,

carry out research projects, observe professional midwifery and practise supervised midwifery. Entry requirements include at least one of the following at A-level (or equivalent): biology, chemistry, psychology, health and social care, applied science. Graduates will be qualified to work in women's homes, clinics or other settings within a health or social care team.

Rankings

1.	Cardiff	100
2.	Southampton	96.6
3.	Oxford Brookes	87.7
4.	York	86.7
5.	Manchester	85.6
6.	Plymouth	82.9
7.	Bangor	82.1
8.	Coventry	80.8
9.	Keele	77.5
10.	Brighton	76.9
11.	Kingston	76.1
12.	Teesside	75.5
13.	Swansea	75.2
14.	Edge Hill	74.5
15.	Leeds	73.2
15.	Surrey	73.2
17.	Nottingham	72.9
18.	Queen's, Belfast	72.7
19.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	69.4

20.	Middlesex	68.3
21.	Canterbury Christ Church	67.7
22.	Edinburgh Napier	66.7
23.	Huddersfield	66.3
24.	Central Lancashire	66.2
25.	Wolverhampton	65.6
26.	Bradford	65.5
27.	Robert Gordon	64.2
28.	City	64.1
29.	Anglia Ruskin	63.7
30.	Northampton	62.8
31.	Sheffield Hallam	61.8
32.	Salford	61.6
33.	West of Scotland	60.6
34.	Worcester	59.7
35.	UWE Bristol	59.5
36.	South Wales	58.6
37.	Staffordshire	58.2
38.	UEA	58
39.	De Montfort	57.7
40.	Suffolk	57.4
41.	Hertfordshire	57.2
41.	West London	57.2
43.	King's College London	57.1
44.	Birmingham City	57
45.	Lincoln	55
46.	Chester	54
47.	Greenwich	53.9
48.	Northumbria	49.5
49.	Bournemouth	48.9
50.	London South Bank	44.6
51.	Hull	43.2
52.	Bedfordshire	33.1
53.	Cumbria	33

Music

The study of creative expression through sound, including performance and composition

Music degrees vary greatly. Some focus on the music; others allow students to take modules in subjects such as English, another language or education studies. There are courses that don't even require students to have practical music skills. Entry requirements range from CCC to ABB at A-level (or equivalent). Those taking a performance music course will be expected to have achieved grade 7 (or equivalent) in their main instrument or voice. Making a living off your musical talents won't be easy as work can be unpredictable and reliant on short-term contracts. On the plus side, you'll have a host of transferable skills. Teaching is a favourite among graduates. You could also find work in music promotion or publishing, radio, TV, festivals and orchestras. Or you could undertake further training to become a music therapist.



Rankings

1.	Guildhall School of Music and Drama	100
2.	Cambridge	95.1
3.	Southampton	94.4
4.	Oxford	93.1
5.	Surrey	92.3
6.	Durham	92.2
7.	Royal Academy of Music	91.4
8.	Bangor	91.1
9.	Aberdeen	90.8
10.	Royal College of Music	88.8
11.	Royal Northern College of Music	88.5
12.	Leeds	88.4
13.	Bristol	88.1
14.	Cardiff	85.8
15.	Sheffield	85.1
15.	Trinity Saint David	85.1
17.	Royal Holloway	84.3
18.	Edinburgh Napier	82.4
19.	Bedfordshire	81.4
20.	Birmingham City	81.3
21.	Manchester	80.8
22.	Birmingham	80.2
23.	East London	79
24.	Greenwich	77.8
25.	York St John	77.4
25.	Salford	77.4
27.	Newcastle	76.9
28.	York	76.2
29.	Chester	76.1
30.	Nottingham	75.9
30.	Staffordshire	75.9
32.	Trinity Laban Conservatoire	75.6
33.	King's College London	75.1
34.	Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama	75
34.	Glasgow	75
36.	Keele	73.6

37.	Leeds Conservatoire	72.7
38.	Chichester	72.4
39.	Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	72.2
40.	West London	71.7
41.	Liverpool	71
42.	Goldsmiths	69.7
43.	Bath Spa	69.5
43.	Huddersfield	69.5
45.	Lincoln	68.2
46.	Edinburgh	67.7
47.	Sussex	65.8
48.	Derby	65.2
49.	Middlesex	64.7
50.	Ulster	63.9
51.	Oxford Brookes	63.8
52.	Hertfordshire	61.7
53.	Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts	61.2
54.	UWE Bristol	59
55.	Queen's, Belfast	58.7
56.	Hull	58
57.	Canterbury Christ Church	57.4
58.	Plymouth Marjon	57.2
59.	Liverpool Hope	56.1
60.	Gloucestershire	55.4
61.	South Wales	55
62.	Central Lancashire	54.2
63.	De Montfort	53.8
64.	Coventry	53.7
65.	Winchester	53.4
66.	Kent	53.1
67.	Bucks New University	52.9
68.	Leeds Beckett	52.7
69.	City	52.5
70.	Westminster	49.9
71.	Anglia Ruskin	48
72.	Edge Hill	47.3
73.	Bournemouth	45.6
74.	London South Bank	44.6
75.	Falmouth	43.8
76.	Solent	43.5
77.	West of Scotland	36.2
78.	Kingston	35.1



Nursing

Learn how to care for the sick and injured. May include adult and learning disability nursing

It's hard to imagine a more rewarding career than nursing. During your studies you'll learn how to deliver care and support for patients with a range of healthcare needs. Registered nurses must choose from one of four specialisms as part of their degree: adult nursing, children's nursing, mental health nursing or learning disability nursing.

You may need at least one of the following at A-level (or equivalent): biology, chemistry, psychology, health and social care, applied science.

If you want it, you'll have a job for life. Nursing graduates will be qualified to work in hospitals, community health centres, GP practices or mental health units.

Rankings

1.	Edinburgh	100
2.	Glasgow	96.9
3.	Liverpool	87.2
4.	Southampton	81.8
5.	Northampton	78.3
6.	Coventry	73
7.	Ulster	72.9
8.	York	72.8
9.	Queen's, Belfast	72.4
10.	West London	72.1
11.	Manchester Met	71.7
12.	Winchester	71.6
13.	Kingston	71
14.	Glyndwr	70.8
15.	Cardiff	70.4
16.	Sheffield	70.1
17.	South Wales	70
18.	Swansea	69.4
19.	Bucks New University	69
20.	Oxford Brookes	67.1
21.	Hertfordshire	66.7
22.	London South Bank	66.1
23.	Derby	63.9
24.	Bolton	63.5

24.	Surrey	63.5
26.	Manchester	61.9
27.	Greenwich	61.8
28.	Essex	61.6
29.	Bradford	61.5
30.	Keele	60.8
31.	Queen Margaret	60
32.	Hull	59.6
33.	Lincoln	59.3
34.	Northumbria	58.6
35.	Wolverhampton	56.9
36.	Nottingham	56.8
37.	UWE Bristol	56.6
38.	Suffolk	55.5
39.	Plymouth	55.2
39.	Portsmouth	55.2
41.	Gloucestershire	55.1
41.	King's College London	55.1
43.	Teesside	54.8
44.	Leeds Beckett	52.8
45.	Birmingham City	52.7
46.	Middlesex	52.5
46.	Stirling	52.5
48.	City	50.7
49.	Chester	50.5
50.	Canterbury Christ Church	50.2
51.	Brighton	49.9
52.	Bournemouth	49.6
53.	UEA	49.4
54.	Glasgow Caledonian	49.2
55.	Anglia Ruskin	49.1
56.	Salford	48.8
56.	Highlands & Islands	48.8
58.	Huddersfield	48.3
59.	Edge Hill	47.5
60.	Leeds	47.1
61.	East London	47
61.	Edinburgh Napier	47
63.	Liverpool John Moores	46.8
64.	Sheffield Hallam	45.3
65.	Staffordshire	45.2
66.	Bangor	44.9
67.	Dundee	43.8
68.	Cumbria	42.8
68.	Robert Gordon	42.8
70.	Birmingham	41.4
71.	Bedfordshire	40.1
72.	Solent	38.6
73.	Sunderland	37.2
74.	De Montfort	36.4
75.	West of Scotland	35
76.	Central Lancashire	33.4
77.	Worcester	29

Nutrition and food science

Learn how food science and nutrition keep people and the planet healthy, and about the food choices we make

People are becoming increasingly interested in understanding how the food we eat affects our health, and how improving the food supply chains can reduce their environmental impact. Food science and nutrition play a major role in keeping both populations and the planet healthy.

Students will learn about the complex basis for the food choices we make, the composition, production and processing of food, and how these factors affect our health.

Most courses consist of lectures, seminars and analytical, computer and health-related laboratory sessions. A background in science is

helpful but not essential.

Food science and nutrition will play a central role in global efforts to improve human and planetary health. Graduates often follow careers in the food industry as practising nutritionists, in public health or in food- and nutrition-related research. Some go on to set up their own business, work in the NHS or become personal trainers.

Rankings

1.	King's College London	100
2.	Nottingham	96.4
3.	London Met	90.8
4.	Queen's, Belfast	90.1
5.	Abertay	88.6
6.	Bournemouth	88
7.	Leeds	87.2
8.	Plymouth	84.4
9.	Glasgow Caledonian	80.1
10.	Surrey	79.9
11.	Edge Hill	78.4
12.	Cardiff Met	78.2
13.	Ulster	76.6



14.	Reading	76.3
15.	Hertfordshire	72.6
16.	Manchester Met	72.3
17.	Newcastle	68.6
18.	Leeds Beckett	66.4
19.	Sheffield Hallam	63.5
20.	Liverpool John Moores	60.4
21.	Chester	55.6
22.	Coventry	54.1
23.	Westminster	53.7
24.	Queen Margaret	51.3
25.	London South Bank	44.5
26.	Bath Spa	38.9
27.	St Mary's, Twickenham	35.9



Paramedic science

Learn how to treat patients at an emergency scene. Includes mental health work in the community

Paramedics are always needed. No two days will ever be the same, so this job is challenging and learning is never-ending. You will learn to treat and stabilise patients at the scene of an accident or emergency - in those crucial minutes when your knowledge and ability can make

the difference between life and death. On graduation, you will be eligible for registration as a paramedic with the Health and Care Professions Council.

Most courses require three A-levels, including biology, other sciences or maths. You will need to show good grades in your chosen subjects, normally a B or above.

Most graduates go on to work in the NHS. There are alternatives in private practice, social services, the pharmaceutical industry, the armed forces or the prison service.

Students from the University of Greenwich have also gone on to work in supportive roles within specialist services, such as the premature baby transfer service, air ambulance team and the hazardous area response team.

Opportunities are also available in minor injury units and GP surgeries.

Rankings

1.	Hertfordshire	100
2.	Oxford Brookes	95.5
3.	Liverpool John Moores	93.9
4.	Surrey	91.9
5.	Coventry	91.4
6.	St George's	83.6
7.	UWE Bristol	81.7
8.	Teesside	80.1
9.	Portsmouth	79.3
10.	Sunderland	77
11.	Brighton	76.8
12.	Bournemouth	70.3
12.	Edge Hill	70.3
14.	UEA	64.7
15.	Bradford	64.4
16.	Staffordshire	62.8
17.	Central Lancashire	62.5
18.	Birmingham City	61.6
19.	Sheffield Hallam	61.3
20.	Glasgow Caledonian	57.6
21.	Hull	53
22.	Plymouth	47.9
23.	Gloucestershire	47.4
24.	Anglia Ruskin	43.2
25.	Wolverhampton	40.4
26.	Suffolk	38.3
27.	Greenwich	38.2
28.	Canterbury Christ Church	37.2
29.	Worcester	33.2

Pharmacy and pharmacology

Study of the management and dispensing of medicines, and their effects on the body

Pharmacy will teach you all about medicines, their uses, and how to manage and dispense them. Pharmacology focuses on how medicinal drugs are delivered, their effects on the body and if new ones could work better. You'll need to keep up to date with new drugs on the market. Places often require chemistry and biology, maths or another science subject. Most graduates get jobs in NHS hospitals or in a high street chemist. Some will venture into industry or stay in universities as researchers or tutors.



Rankings

1.	Ulster	100
2.	Lincoln	94.4
3.	St George's	93.6
4.	Portsmouth	91.5
5.	Nottingham Trent	86.9
6.	Queen's, Belfast	86.2
7.	Glasgow	84.6

8.	Cardiff	84.3
9.	Bradford	83.8
10.	Sunderland	83.6
11.	Robert Gordon	81.8
12.	Aberdeen	80.6
13.	UCL	80
14.	Bath	79.3
15.	Nottingham	78.7
16.	Queen Mary	78.3
17.	Strathclyde	76.3
18.	Leeds	73.6
18.	Liverpool	
	John Moores	73.6
20.	Liverpool	73.3
21.	Keele	73.1
22.	UEA	72.8
23.	Brighton	71.8
24.	Huddersfield	70.3
25.	Medway School of Pharmacy	68.8
26.	Kingston	67.6
27.	Swansea	66
28.	Birmingham	65.6
29.	De Montfort	62.8
30.	Central Lancashire	60.5
31.	Manchester	59.9
32.	Reading	57.4
33.	Hertfordshire	55.5
34.	Newcastle	55.2
35.	King's College London	55
36.	Bristol	53.8
37.	Aston	51.3
38.	Wolverhampton	41.9
39.	London Met	36



Physics

The study of the universe. Includes astrophysics, space science, quantum and classical mechanics

Physics is the study of the fundamental forces that govern our universe. You'll learn about physical phenomena from the largest to the smallest scales, from galaxies to quarks and beyond. You'll also delve into particle physics (the basic building blocks that make up the world around us), and classical and special relativity (how objects act under the effects of forces, and how this changes under extreme conditions). You will know how to produce clear and accurate scientific reports and present complex information concisely. Many universities will want top grades, though not all. Many courses are accredited by the Institute of Physics - the professional body for physicists. You will probably need to have studied maths and physics at A-level (or equivalent). Further maths, chemistry and computing or computer science are helpful. Many physics graduates go on to further study and pursue careers in research. Those who leave academia often become data scientists or work in computing or engineering. The skills you'll learn in problem-solving and computing will be highly prized by employers in a range of fields. Physics graduates can also be found in the public sector, business and teaching.

Rankings

1.	Oxford	100
2.	Durham	96.5
3.	Cambridge	95.5
4.	St Andrews	93.7
5.	Lancaster	93.3
6.	Aberdeen	91.7
7.	Birmingham	83.2
8.	Leicester	82.6
9.	Cardiff	82.5
10.	Hull	80.3
11.	Salford	79.9
12.	Manchester	79.3
13.	UCL	78.7
14.	Edinburgh	78.6
15.	Glasgow	76.2
16.	Warwick	75.8
17.	Imperial College	75.5
18.	Heriot-Watt	74.9
19.	York	71.9
20.	Bath	70.3
21.	Bristol	70.1
22.	Keele	69.5
23.	Loughborough	69.3
24.	Liverpool	68.4
25.	Surrey	67.7
26.	Dundee	67
26.	Southampton	67
28.	Nottingham	66.1
29.	Exeter	65.7
30.	Nottingham Trent	65.6
31.	Northumbria	65.5
32.	Swansea	64.2
33.	Sussex	63.9
34.	Strathclyde	62.9
35.	Royal Holloway	62
36.	Central Lancashire	60.6
37.	Leeds	60.5
38.	Portsmouth	59.7
39.	Queen's, Belfast	54.8
40.	Hertfordshire	54.4
41.	Sheffield	52.8
42.	Aberystwyth	49.7
43.	Queen Mary	47
44.	Kent	44.1
45.	Newcastle	35.3
46.	King's College London	35



Philosophy

How to think about ideas and ask questions about truth, right and wrong. Includes ethics and logic

Philosophy tackles concepts others take for granted. What is private property? What does it mean to say that one event causes another? Students can find themselves engaging with modern social and political concerns, while confronting personal value systems and moral life. Expect to study different

thinkers and traditions of thought, from Plato and Aristotle through to Marx, Kant, Nietzsche, Russell and Derrida. Some courses require A-levels (or equivalent) in maths, religious studies, classical civilisations or other social sciences subjects. Graduates find work in consultancy, journalism, local administration, law, publishing, project management, teaching, librarianship, the civil service and banking. The financial sector, the legal profession and finance are other common destinations. Others move on to the creative industries.

Rankings

1.	Oxford	100
2.	Cambridge	95.7
3.	St Andrews	95.1
4.	London School of Economics	85.9
5.	Lincoln	85
6.	Bangor	83.2
7.	UWE Bristol	82.4
8.	UCL	80.5
9.	Durham	80
10.	King's College London	78.6
11.	Warwick	78.2
12.	Southampton	77.9
13.	Oxford Brookes	77.5
14.	Edinburgh	76.5
15.	Roehampton	73.5
16.	Dundee	71.7
17.	Hull	71.2
18.	Exeter	68.9
19.	York	67.8
19.	Leeds	67.8
21.	Kent	65.6
22.	Bristol	65.2
23.	Birmingham	65
24.	Sheffield	62.9
25.	Sussex	62
26.	Keele	61.5
27.	SOAS	61.4
28.	Liverpool	60.1
29.	Glasgow	59
30.	UEA	58.8
31.	Royal Holloway	58.6
32.	Nottingham Trent	58.4
32.	Manchester	58.4
34.	Nottingham	57.6
35.	Lancaster	56.1
36.	Essex	53.1
37.	Winchester	52.7
38.	Reading	52.1
39.	Newcastle	49.1
40.	Cardiff	47.5
41.	Stirling	43.1
42.	Queen's, Belfast	35.6
43.	Manchester Met	33.4

Physiotherapy

Learn how the human body works. Includes anatomy, rehabilitation, movement control and oncology

This course prepares students for registration as a physiotherapist. You will gain the 1,000 hours in hospital, plus academic work required to be able to register with the Health and Care Professions Council. You'll also be dealing with real patients in clinical settings. You will be working in hospitals and integrating into clinical service towards managing your own caseload.

Topics range from anatomy, movement control, strength, rehabilitation, women's health, mental health, paediatrics and oncology. You will develop

an understanding of applied movement science and the rehabilitation of patients with cardiorespiratory, musculoskeletal and neurological conditions.

At least one of the core sciences - chemistry, biology, physics - is preferred at A-level. Maths is also an asset.

There is an increasing demand for physiotherapists in areas such as public health in NHS hospitals, communities, sports teams, at a school, in private practice, the armed forces, GP surgeries, nursing homes; or in education, academia and research.

Rankings

1.	Southampton	100
2.	Bradford	98
3.	Glasgow Caledonian	90
4.	Nottingham	89.7
5.	Oxford Brookes	88.8

6.	Plymouth	86.5
7.	Cardiff	86.4
8.	UEA	82.3
8.	York St John	82.3
10.	Keele	81.9
10.	King's College London	81.9
12.	Brighton	81.1
13.	Hertfordshire	79
14.	Leicester	78.4
15.	Salford	76.7
16.	Bournemouth	76.5
17.	Northumbria	76
18.	Robert Gordon	75.7
19.	Liverpool	75.5
20.	UWE Bristol	73.8
21.	Ulster	71.9
22.	Central Lancashire	71.3
22.	Manchester Met	71.3
24.	Coventry	71.1
25.	Essex	70
26.	Winchester	68.9
27.	Wolverhampton	66.9
28.	Leeds Beckett	66.1
29.	Worcester	62.3
30.	East London	58.7
31.	Birmingham	56.2
32.	Gloucestershire	56
33.	Huddersfield	50.3
34.	Brunel	49.7
35.	Cumbria	48.2
36.	Sheffield Hallam	43.3
37.	Teesside	40.9
38.	London South Bank	39
39.	St George's	35.5



Politics

The study of government and society: global politics, political thought and electoral studies

Politics is a subject full of drama: you'll study the rise and fall of leaders and political parties, and the power play between nations. You'll examine the ideas of freedom, democracy and human rights. You'll touch on ideologies, such as communism and fascism, electoral behaviour, party politics, protest and revolution.

Entry requirements vary, with typical offers in the region of A-levels at grades BCC to AAB (or equivalent). A-levels in politics, history, philosophy, law, sociology, economics, English literature, religious studies or business studies could help.

A politics degree doesn't automatically qualify you for a seat in the House of Commons, but you'll have a better idea of what to expect if you decide you want to become an MP.

Consider a career in the civil service, including the diplomatic service, working as a researcher for a politician (in the UK and overseas), for local government or a think tank, or becoming a political journalist. Politics is also a popular postgraduate subject.



Rankings

1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	99.8
3.	London School of Economics	96
4.	Aberystwyth	91.6
5.	Warwick	90
6.	King's College London	88.3
7.	UCL	85.9
8.	Aberdeen	84
9.	Glasgow	83
10.	Bath	82.2
11.	Bristol	80.9
12.	Exeter	80.1
13.	Coventry	79.2
14.	Strathclyde	78.6
15.	Lincoln	77.6
16.	Loughborough	77.4
17.	Manchester	76.7
18.	Sheffield	76.4

19.	Leeds	76.3
19.	Durham	76.3
21.	York	75.8
22.	Sheffield Hallam	75.4
23.	SOAS	75.3
24.	Edinburgh	74.8
25.	UEA	74.7
26.	Keele	74.4
27.	Cardiff	74.1
28.	Hull	73.8
29.	Aston	72.9
30.	Surrey	72.8
31.	Essex	72
32.	Stirling	71.8
33.	Royal Holloway	70.5
33.	Southampton	70.5
35.	Birmingham	69.9
36.	City	69.5
37.	Kent	69.4
38.	Lancaster	69.2
39.	York St John	69.1
40.	Oxford Brookes	68.4
41.	Nottingham	68.2
42.	Queen Mary	66.4
43.	Sussex	66.1
44.	Winchester	65.3
44.	Huddersfield	65.3
46.	Salford	65.1
47.	Portsmouth	64.9
48.	Reading	63.3
49.	Westminster	63
50.	Leicester	62.8
51.	De Montfort	62.4
52.	Bournemouth	62.2
53.	UWE Bristol	61.5
54.	Ulster	60.6
54.	Greenwich	60.6
54.	Swansea	60.6
57.	Newcastle	60.1
58.	Liverpool	59.3
59.	Leeds Beckett	58.3
60.	Nottingham Trent	57.8
61.	Goldsmiths	57
62.	Manchester Met	56.2
63.	Brunel	54.4
63.	Queen's, Belfast	54.4
65.	Dundee	51.8
66.	West of Scotland	35.6

Product design

Learn about the design, manufacture and use of a product, and environmental sustainability

You'll learn about the life cycle of a product, from designing and manufacturing

through to use and what happens at the end of that product's life. Environmental sustainability is embedded in design thinking.

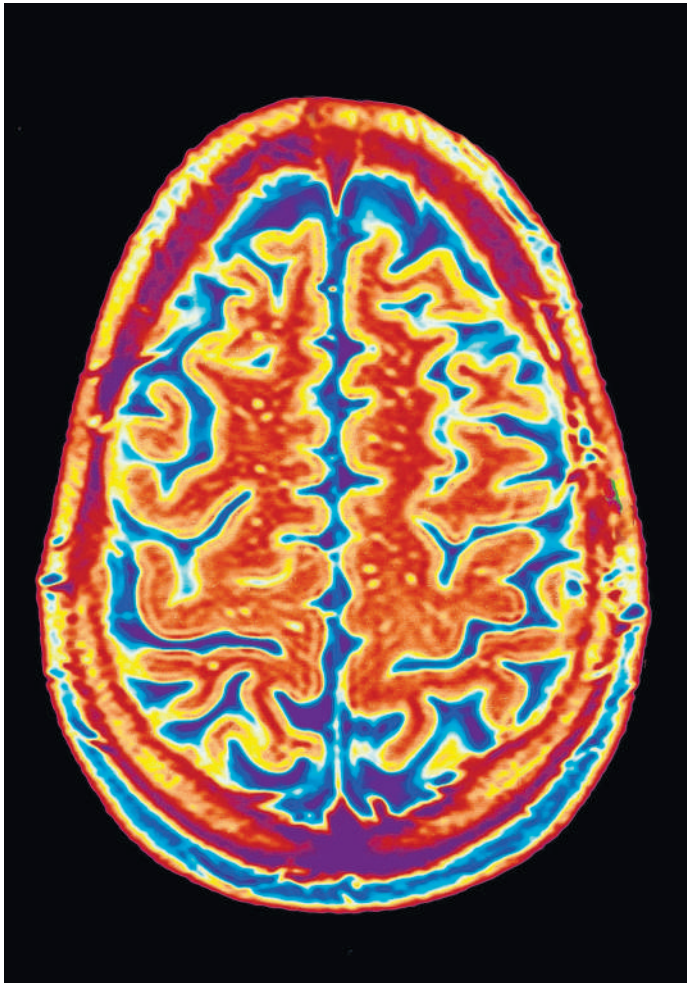
Most students come from an A-level in product design or a design technology background.

Some universities have strong links with design consultancies. Becoming a product designer is a popular choice, as is working with brands, in website design or in the commercial sector.

Rankings

1.	Loughborough	100
2.	Lincoln	95.6
3.	Staffordshire	95.5
4.	Strathclyde	95.4
5.	Central Lancashire	91.7
6.	UWE Bristol	88.4
7.	Goldsmiths	88.1
8.	Trinity Saint David	87.2
9.	Plymouth	86.3
10.	Coventry	85.1
11.	Northumbria	80.5
12.	Cardiff Met	80.1
13.	Dundee	76.6
13.	Sussex	76.6
15.	Manchester Met	76.2
16.	Arts University Bournemouth	75.2
17.	Leeds	73.8
18.	Nottingham Trent	70.7
18.	Huddersfield	70.7
20.	Glasgow School of Art	70
21.	University of the Arts London	69.9
22.	Hertfordshire	62.3
23.	Liverpool John Moores	61.8
24.	Brunel	59.1
25.	Bournemouth	55.5
26.	Ulster	55.4
27.	Northampton	55.3
28.	Brighton	53.9
29.	Robert Gordon	53.8
30.	De Montfort	49.8
31.	Sheffield Hallam	47.4
32.	Leeds Beckett	45.2
33.	Glyndwr	36.1





Psychology

The quest to explain behaviour through studying the human mind, including self-study

Are you fascinated by the human mind? Do you want to understand how and why people act the way they do? You could find yourself investigating anything from why your mates overshare on social media, to how seemingly calm people turn violent. You'll look at the way the brain perceives and uses information, and how these processes change as you become older.

Some courses expect biology, chemistry, maths or physics at A-level. Other useful subjects are psychology, sociology, computing or computer science.

Many graduates become practising psychologists. You could also train to become a clinical, educational, forensic, health or occupational psychologist. Work is also found in human resources, teaching, IT, social work, law, the media and healthcare.

Rankings		
1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Bath	96.3
3.	Glasgow	93.2
4.	Oxford	92.9
5.	St Andrews	92.8
6.	UCL	91.7
7.	King's College London	89.8
8.	York	86.1
9.	Exeter	85.9
10.	Cardiff	85.1
11.	Cumbria	83.9
12.	Edinburgh	83.5
13.	Loughborough	82.6
14.	UWE Bristol	81.5
15.	Glasgow Caledonian	81.4
16.	Surrey	81.3
17.	Southampton	80.7
17.	Warwick	80.7
19.	Durham	80.3
20.	Strathclyde	80
21.	Ulster	79.9
22.	Staffordshire	79.8
23.	Royal Holloway	79.5
24.	Bangor	78.9
25.	Aberdeen	78.8
26.	Aston	78.4
27.	Abertay	77.1
27.	Bristol	77.1
29.	Lancaster	76.8
30.	Leeds	75.8
31.	Hertfordshire	75.2
32.	Birmingham	74.7
33.	Sunderland	74.1
34.	Queen Mary	73.6
35.	York St John	73.4

36.	Leicester	73.3
37.	Queen's, Belfast	73.2
38.	Newcastle	73.1
38.	Nottingham Trent	73.1
40.	Gloucestershire	73
41.	City	72.9
42.	Chester	72.5
42.	Nottingham	72.5
44.	Buckingham	72.2
45.	Heriot-Watt	72.1
46.	Sheffield	71.8
46.	South Wales	71.8
48.	Chichester	71.7
48.	Manchester	71.7
50.	Edge Hill	71.5
51.	Derby	71.4
52.	Lincoln	71.2
53.	UEA	70.3
53.	Trinity Saint David	70.3
55.	London Met	70.1
56.	Canterbury Christ Church	70
57.	Huddersfield	69.9
57.	Portsmouth	69.9
59.	Dundee	69.6
60.	Essex	69.3
61.	Liverpool	69
62.	Aberystwyth	68.6
63.	Plymouth	68.1
64.	Kent	67.9
65.	Swansea	67.8
66.	Birmingham City	67.6
67.	Bolton	67.5
68.	Wolverhampton	67.1
69.	Central Lancashire	66.9
70.	Bucks New University	66.8
70.	Northumbria	66.8
72.	Liverpool John Moores	66
72.	Stirling	66
72.	West London	66
75.	Hull	65.7
76.	Sussex	65.6
77.	Keele	64.8
78.	Suffolk	64.5
79.	Teesside	64.3
80.	Anglia Ruskin	64.2
81.	Reading	63.7
81.	St Mary's, Twickenham	63.7
83.	West of Scotland	63.4
84.	Greenwich	63
85.	Oxford Brookes	62.7
86.	Sheffield Hallam	62.5
86.	Plymouth Marjon	62.5
88.	Coventry	61.9
89.	Kingston	60.9
90.	Edinburgh Napier	60.2
91.	East London	59.4
92.	Middlesex	59
92.	Northampton	59
94.	Roehampton	57.9
95.	Bournemouth	57.8
96.	Winchester	57.6
97.	Cardiff Met	57.4
98.	Bradford	56.7
99.	Bishop Grosseteste	56.6
100.	Goldsmiths	56
100.	Manchester Met	56
102.	Leeds Beckett	55.1
103.	Westminster	54.9
104.	Leeds Trinity	54.8
104.	Salford	54.8
106.	Brighton	54
107.	Queen Margaret	53.9
108.	De Montfort	52.1
109.	Brunel	51.6
110.	Bath Spa	51.2
111.	Worcester	50.4
112.	London South Bank	48.4
113.	Liverpool Hope	45.1
114.	Newman	42.2
115.	Solent	40.3
116.	Bedfordshire	34.6

Social work

How to find practical solutions to protect vulnerable people. Includes community studies

It's your passion to help children from disadvantaged backgrounds, people with learning difficulties, those in the criminal justice system or other vulnerable people, this could be the degree for you. Time in the classroom will be spent looking at the theory behind the practice, and exploring when and why social workers get involved in people's lives. You'll touch on the psychological, sociological and social policy perspectives of social work.

A psychology A-level is a useful way to demonstrate your interest. Some courses will expect you to have undertaken relevant work experience.

With a shortage of social workers that doesn't seem to be abating, job prospects are good. Working in boroughs with particular recruitment problems



could mean you'll get your student tuition fees paid for. Work can be found in a variety of settings, including children's homes, prisons, nursing homes and charities.

You will also have a vast array of transferable skills - including communication, negotiation, conflict resolution and advocacy - which will be suited to other jobs in the social services, healthcare, teaching or elsewhere.

Rankings		
1.	Edinburgh	100
2.	Queen's, Belfast	98.1
3.	Strathclyde	91
4.	Lancaster	90.7
5.	Bournemouth	89.4
6.	Hertfordshire	86.9
7.	Nottingham	84.8
8.	Glasgow Caledonian	83.8
9.	Salford	83.2
10.	Anglia Ruskin	82
11.	London South Bank	80.3
12.	Sussex	78.9
13.	Chester	78.3
14.	Robert Gordon	78.1
15.	Suffolk	77.6
16.	Manchester Met	76.9
16.	Northumbria	76.9
18.	Bath	76.5
19.	Bristol	76.1
20.	Chichester	75.3
21.	Glyndwr	75.2
22.	Central Lancashire	73.8
23.	Cumbria	72.8
24.	Kingston	72.7
25.	Solent	72.2
26.	Teesside	72
27.	Lincoln	71.8
28.	Plymouth	71
29.	Essex	70.6
30.	West of Scotland	69.1
31.	Winchester	68.9
32.	Portsmouth	68.5
33.	Derby	68.4
34.	Brighton	67.5
35.	UEA	67.1
35.	Hull	67.1
37.	Goldsmiths	66.9
38.	Birmingham City	66.8
39.	Kent	65.9
40.	Gloucestershire	65.1
41.	Dundee	64.9
42.	Stirling	64.2
43.	Huddersfield	64
44.	Bolton	63.9
44.	Staffordshire	63.9
46.	Leeds Beckett	63.8
46.	Swansea	63.8
48.	Edge Hill	63.3
49.	Leeds	62.9
50.	Sheffield Hallam	62.6
51.	Liverpool Hope	62.3
51.	UWE Bristol	62.3
53.	York	62.1
54.	Ulster	61.8
55.	Bedfordshire	61.6
56.	Coventry	60.9
57.	Greenwich	59.9
58.	East London	59.2
59.	Bangor	57
60.	Birmingham	56.9
61.	Bucks New University	56.6
62.	Worcester	56.4
63.	Middlesex	54.4
64.	London Met	54.2
65.	Cardiff Met	53.8
66.	De Montfort	52.9
67.	Leeds Trinity	52.7
68.	South Wales	51.8
69.	Sunderland	51.1
70.	Liverpool John Moores	51
71.	Highlands & Islands	50.9
72.	Northampton	50.6
73.	West London	49.3
73.	Wolverhampton	49.3
75.	Plymouth Marjon	48.6
76.	Bradford	44.9
77.	Trinity Saint David	44.7
78.	Oxford Brookes	43.3
79.	Newman	42.5
80.	Nottingham Trent	38.8
81.	Keele	38.4
82.	Canterbury Christ Church	32.9

Sociology and social policy

The study of political, economic and social problems and the policy responses to them

This degree is about developing an understanding of crucial issues within public life. You will look at how people think and behave. It's very much about trying to understand how society operates and why. Subjects include global inequality, homelessness, housing policies, gender, human rights, conflict, racism, ethnicity and crime. Sociology and politics A-levels are helpful, but humanities and social sciences are the ones universities generally look for. Many graduates may go into think tanks, local governments, policy groups as well as social work and social policy. Law, journalism, publishing and the charity sector are also options.

Rankings		
1.	Cambridge	100
2.	UCL	95.3
3.	London School of Economics	92.6
4.	Staffordshire	87.8
5.	Bath	87.7
6.	Durham	87.2
7.	Suffolk	86.1
8.	Strathclyde	85.3
9.	Loughborough	84
10.	Glasgow	83.1
11.	Edinburgh	81.3
12.	Manchester	79.8
13.	King's College London	79.7
14.	Exeter	76.6
15.	Leicester	76.5
16.	Bristol	76.3
17.	Glasgow Caledonian	76
18.	Leeds	75.8
19.	Swansea	74.4
20.	Southampton	74
20.	Warwick	74
22.	Cardiff	72.6
23.	Derby	72.1
24.	Aberdeen	72
25.	Sussex	70.2
26.	Bournemouth	70

27.	Gloucestershire	69.9
28.	Edge Hill	69.5
29.	Plymouth	69.2
30.	Aston	69
31.	Sheffield	68.4
32.	Nottingham Trent	68
33.	Teesside	67.8
34.	Birmingham	67.4
35.	Hull	67.3
35.	Huddersfield	67.3
37.	Manchester Met	66.7
38.	Northumbria	66.4
39.	Nottingham	66.2
40.	Salford	65.9
41.	Royal Holloway	65.4
42.	York	64.9
42.	Leeds Beckett	64.9
44.	Queen's, Belfast	64.5
45.	Surrey	64.4
46.	Sheffield Hallam	64
47.	Kent	63.9
48.	City	63.7
49.	Anglia Ruskin	63.6
50.	East London	63.3
51.	Greenwich	63.2
52.	Lincoln	63
53.	Keele	62.2
54.	Newcastle	62
55.	Essex	61.7
56.	UWE Bristol	60.8
57.	Queen Margaret	60.6
58.	Trinity Saint David	60.5
58.	Middlesex	60.5
60.	Canterbury Christ Church	60.4
61.	York St John	60
61.	Wolverhampton	60



63.	Stirling	59.5
64.	Ulster	59.3
64.	Portsmouth	59.3
66.	Central Lancashire	59
67.	West of Scotland	58.5
68.	Coventry	57.6
69.	Oxford Brookes	57
70.	Westminster	56.8
71.	Roehampton	56.3
72.	Liverpool	55.1
73.	London Met	54.9
74.	Liverpool John Moores	54.3
75.	Edinburgh Napier	54.2
76.	Bath Spa	54.1
77.	Goldsmiths	53.8
77.	Robert Gordon	53.8
79.	Liverpool Hope	53.6
80.	Northampton	53
81.	Birmingham City	48.4
82.	Winchester	48.1
83.	Bucks New University	47.7
84.	South Wales	47.5
85.	Bangor	46.2
86.	Brighton	45.5
87.	Brunel	41
88.	Abertay	38.5
89.	Bedfordshire	32.8
90.	De Montfort	32.7

Sports science



The scientific study of exercise, health and sport, and why these matter to society

Whether you dream of managing your favourite football club or want to get more local people involved in sport, a sports science degree could help you achieve those dreams. Sports science degrees take a behind-the-scenes look at sport, exercise and health, coaching, management, and how the body works. These courses aren't just for athletes - you don't need to be good at sport. Many courses will expect you to have biology, chemistry, maths or physics at A-level (or equivalent). A physical education or psychology A-level could help your application. You'll be qualified for a career in sports coaching, management and administration, maybe as a fitness instructor, personal trainer or leisure centre manager. Graduates are being recruited to provide sport science support for professional athletes. They are also being employed by national governing bodies for sport, or in the commercial leisure sector. You could teach sports in schools. You may learn business skills that will benefit freelance work as, for example, a nutritionist or events manager.

Rankings		
1.	Glasgow	100
2.	Bath	89.4
3.	Loughborough	87.8
4.	Anglia Ruskin	86.1
5.	Strathclyde	84.9
6.	UEA	82.3
7.	Durham	81.7
8.	Edinburgh	81.6
9.	Oxford Brookes	78.8
10.	Birmingham	78.7
11.	York St John	77.1
12.	Essex	76.9
13.	Leeds	76.8
14.	Teesside	76.4
15.	Sunderland	76
16.	Highlands & Islands	75.9
17.	Newcastle	75.3
18.	Aberdeen	74.2
19.	Bolton	74.1
20.	Surrey	72.9
21.	Lincoln	71.8
22.	Exeter	70.8
23.	Swansea	70.2
24.	Portsmouth	70.1
25.	Central Lancashire	69.5
26.	Brighton	69.4
27.	Stirling	68.8
28.	Worcester	68.2
29.	Trinity Saint David	67.7
30.	Middlesex	66
31.	Birmingham City	65.8
31.	Chester	65.8
33.	Bishop Grosseteste	65.2
33.	Newman	65.2
35.	Chichester	65.1
35.	Nottingham Trent	65.1
37.	Hertfordshire	64.9
38.	Cardiff Met	64.3
39.	Hull	64.2
40.	Greenwich	64
41.	South Wales	63.9
42.	Edge Hill	63.8
43.	St Mary's, Twickenham	62.9
44.	Salford	62
45.	Gloucestershire	61.8
46.	Robert Gordon	61.3
47.	Manchester Met	61.1
48.	Hartpury	60.8
48.	Sheffield Hallam	60.8
50.	Derby	60.2
51.	Bangor	59.8
52.	Northumbria	59.7
53.	Edinburgh Napier	59.5
54.	Bedfordshire	59.4
55.	Staffordshire	59
56.	Plymouth Marjon	58.6
57.	Ulster	58.4
58.	Liverpool John Moores	57.7
59.	Solent	57.6
60.	London Met	57.1
61.	Northampton	57
62.	Abertay	56.5
63.	Wolverhampton	56.1
63.	Coventry	56.1
65.	Bucks New University	55.9
66.	London South Bank	55.8
67.	Cumbria	55.4
68.	Roehampton	55.1
69.	East London	55
70.	Kingston	54.9
71.	Leeds Beckett	54.4
72.	Aberystwyth	54.1
73.	Liverpool Hope	51.9
74.	Huddersfield	50.4
75.	Canterbury Christ Church	49.7
76.	Kent	47.5
77.	Nottingham	47.1
78.	Winchester	45.8
79.	West of Scotland	45.1
80.	Glyndwr	44.1
81.	Brunel	43.1
82.	Leeds Trinity	40.9
83.	Bournemouth	39.7
84.	Suffolk	31.9



Theology and religious studies

The study of religious beliefs, including Christian theology, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism

Depending on the course, you'll learn about the traditions of the world's major religions: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism. You will study

their historical, theological, anthropological and sociological implications, and when and why religions have clashed in the past, which may help you understand how they coexist today. As well as the nuts and bolts of a religion (what people believe and how they express their beliefs), your course will examine how religion impacts on people's lives and behaviour: why, for example, they don't eat certain food and abstain from sex.

Entry requirements vary, but it's likely that religious studies or theology, philosophy, English literature and history will help your application. As a religious studies graduate you'll have plenty of valuable skills to offer an employer and will be equipped to enter professions such as education, law or journalism, or for more pastoral work, such as counselling, mediation and negotiation or social work. Graduates can also be found in charity work, teaching, personnel and accountancy. After a little more training, theology graduates can work in pulpits of various denominations across the land or for a church in other roles, such as community ministers or youth work.

Rankings		
1.	Cambridge	100
2.	Oxford	93.5
3.	Durham	81.5
4.	Glasgow	79.6
5.	Edinburgh	75.7
6.	Manchester	69.3
7.	Exeter	66.4
8.	Birmingham	64.8
9.	Chester	63.8
10.	Leeds	61.9
11.	Roehampton	59.3
12.	Kent	58
13.	Bristol	52.2
14.	Liverpool Hope	49.1
15.	King's College London	48.9
16.	Cardiff	46.9
17.	Nottingham	41.1
18.	York St John	31.9
19.	Canterbury Christ Church	31

Veterinary science

Study of the diagnosis and treatment of disease and injury in animals, animal care and welfare

As a veterinary science student, you'll be taught the structure and form of the animal body, including mammals, birds, reptiles and fish. You will also study genetics, animal handling and behaviour, epidemiology and biometrics, nutrition and metabolism. Later, you will study diseases and their treatment in everything from small family pets to herds of farm animals. Other topics include ethics, welfare, communication, professional behaviour and business skills. You will also learn about the legal obligations you'll face as a vet.

Courses take five to six years to complete, involving everything from surgery to lambing. Applications to veterinary medicine need to be submitted in time for the October Ucas deadline. You'll probably need to sit an entry test. You'll need high predicted grades, and chemistry and biology are usually required at A-level (or equivalent). Physics and maths may help.



Graduates should have the knowledge and confidence to work as a vet, in a practice, on a farm or stables, in a zoo, in industry or research. You'll also keep learning - the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons mandates at least 35 hours of continuing education each year and most vets take further qualifications.

Rankings		
1.	Edinburgh	100
2.	Cambridge	97.6
3.	Nottingham	75.9
4.	Glasgow	73.8
5.	Liverpool	71.7
6.	Bristol	52.5
7.	Royal Veterinary College	42.1
8.	Surrey	34.6

Zoology

Understand a range of animal groups, from reptiles and insects, to mammals and dinosaurs

If you're an animal lover, climate change warrior or sustainability advocate, zoology is the subject for you. Primarily, it's about the study of animals, how they evolve and behave, their physiology and their place in natural ecosystems. But zoologists are increasingly valued for the understanding they bring to the conservation of these ecosystems as well as individual animal species. The subject is growing in popularity among students, who see the importance of understanding animals and their place in the world, and the way the subject integrates modern bioscience. You'll

be studying a broad range of animal groups, dead and alive, from social insects to reptiles, mammals and dinosaurs. Degrees include practical and field work. Typical entry requirements are A-levels in biology and geography or another science, with a good maths GCSE. Graduates often go on to work in conservation and rewilding. There is a wide range of careers, including professional biologists, laboratory officers, environmental consultants and microbiologists working for employers such as the Environment Agency, Natural England, the British Ecological Society, wildlife trusts, and conservation agencies. Many students obtain MSc and PhDs before finding permanent roles. Others use their quantitative skills to pursue careers outside zoology, eg, in data science and software development.*

Rankings		
1.	Glasgow	100
2.	Bristol	97.2
3.	Exeter	96.2
4.	Swansea	93.1
5.	Sheffield	90.3
6.	Manchester	88
7.	Nottingham	87.1
8.	Lincoln	86.1
9.	Sussex	85.6
10.	Queen's, Belfast	80.7
11.	Aberdeen	80.3
12.	Liverpool	79
13.	Reading	78.9
14.	Leeds	76.2
15.	Hull	75.9
16.	Aberystwyth	75
17.	Roehampton	71.6
18.	Cumbria	69.2
19.	Southampton	66.7
20.	Derby	66.1
21.	Bangor	64.8
21.	Liverpool John Moores	64.8
23.	Salford	61.7
24.	Newcastle	60.6
25.	Anglia Ruskin	38.8



Open up their world view



Whether it's just starting university or helping to inspire dissertations - gifting the Guardian Weekly can help your loved ones make more sense of the world.

From the election results to debunking climate misinformation, the Guardian Weekly always goes beyond the headlines to give a deeper understanding of the issues that really matter.



Gift the Guardian Weekly today.
Visit theguardian.com/gift-sept
or scan the QR code

20% off gift subscription

Annual standard subscription	Annual gifting offer price	Saving
£165	£132	20%

The GuardianWeekly

Offer subject to availability. Guardian News and Media Ltd ("GNM") reserves the right to withdraw this promotion at any time. For full promotion terms and conditions for our annual offer, visit <https://support.theguardian.com/p/GW20GIFT1Y/terms>.

BOOK AN OPEN DAY

The
University of
Law



At a choice of campuses*:

**Birmingham, London Bloomsbury, Bristol,
Leeds, Manchester and Nottingham**

Wednesday 28 September 2022 (in-person)

Wednesday 19 October 2022 (in-person)

Saturday 19 November 2022 (online)

Become an Accountant, Criminologist, Lawyer,
Business Manager, Police Officer, Psychologist...

What does it take?

Visit us and find out at our next Open Day.

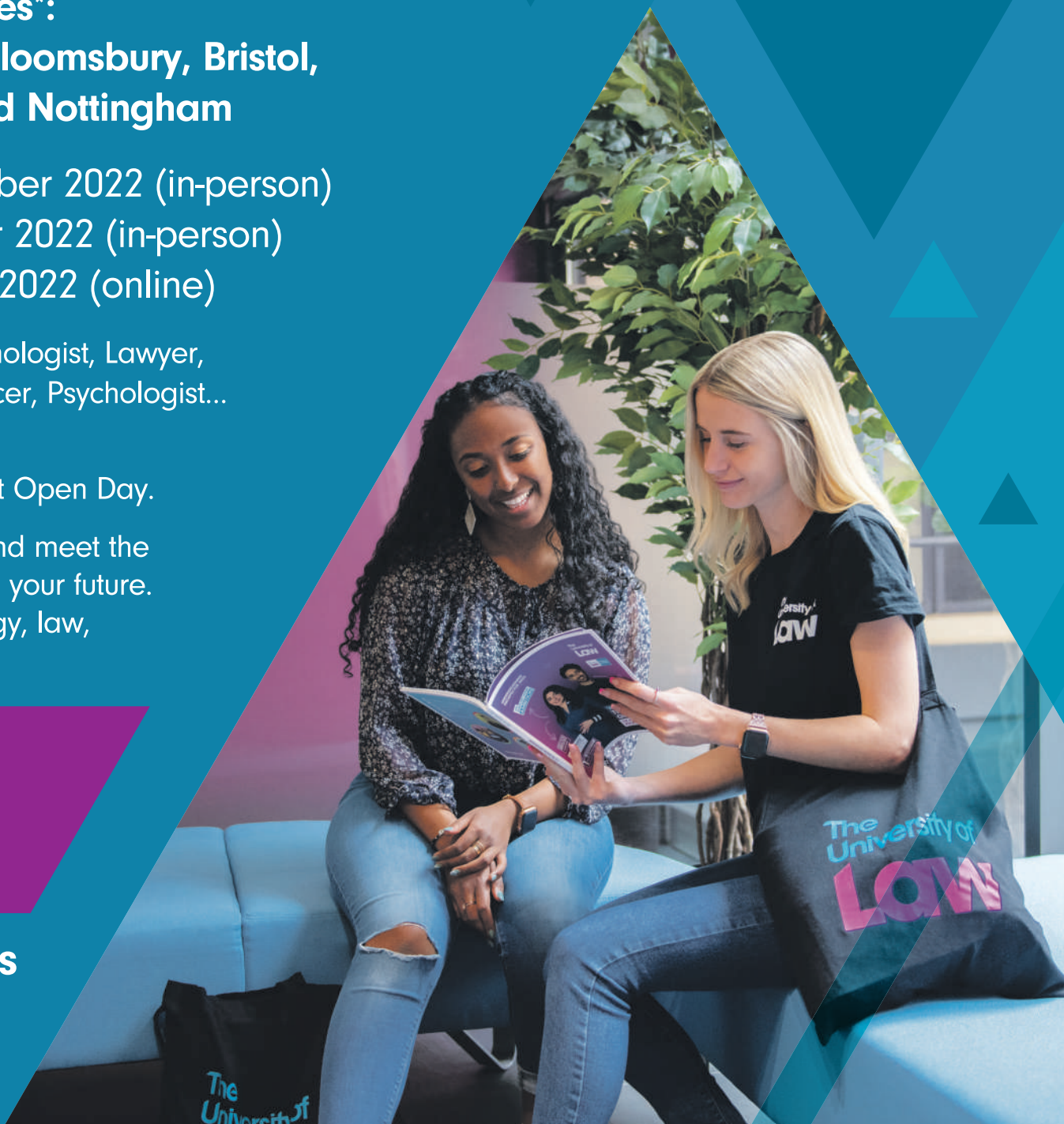
Find the right course for you and meet the
team who can help you shape your future.
Courses in business, criminology, law,
policing and psychology.



**Scan to
book**

law.ac.uk/open-days

*Subject to course availability



WHAT'S ON

10-16 September 2022

**DON'T HUG
ME I'M
SCARED
THE PUPPET
SHOW THAT'S
DEFINITELY
NOT FOR KIDS**

**The
Guardian**





Outfit for purpose
(From left) *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared* creators Joe Pelling, Becky Sloan and Baker Terry with their characters

With its felt urinals, lashings of raw meat and coffins coming to life, nightmarish puppet show *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared* was a YouTube sensation. Now the cult classic comes to Channel 4 - with some of the biggest names in comedy on board. **Rachael Healy** meets its makers

Sesame Street it ain't!

Few, if any, TV shows have millions of fans before they even start filming. But the puppet-based mania of *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared* has never been conventional. Starting life in 2011 as a DIY web series, the original episodes appeared sporadically over five years, making each new release a major event for its booming fanbase. Mystery permeates the show, which initially feels like a classic children's TV until the action takes a creepier turn. It is never clear whether the characters are caught in a dream or a nightmare. It has hints of dark comedies such as *Monkey Dust* and *Jam*, and juxtaposes kids' TV tropes with folk horror. Think *Sesame Street* with existential dread and an incredibly disturbing use of raw meat. Creators Becky Sloan and Joe Pelling, who met at university, conceived the series together. "We were doing jobs we hated and wanted to make something fun with puppets, something musical," Sloan says of the show centred on three felt creations: Red Guy (whose head is seemingly made of two eyes on a crimson-dyed mop), Yellow Guy (like *Sesame Street*'s Ernie with a blue mohawk) and Duck (a duck). "I'd never made a puppet before - you can see the first ones have too many fingers." They were joined by Baker Terry,

who writes, composes and does "about 80%" of the voices, in skits that seem to satirise children's TV. Their first episode was inspired by the "inane drivel" of art school, depicting a craft session that grows increasingly frenzied, with chirpy lyrics about creativity giving way to jarring chords as blood and offal seep into glitter and paint. The internet went wild for the surprising, hilarious results - that episode alone now has 70m views. As *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared* (DHMIS) moves to TV, the team have expanded. While Terry still voices Yellow Guy and Duck, comedy greats such as Jamie Demetriou, Lolly Adefope and Phil Wang have come on board as new characters. Edinburgh comedy award winner Sam Campbell and Natasha Hodgson have joined as writers, and Megan Ganz (of *Community* and *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia* fame) is the story editor. Each episode begins with either a mysterious visitor or an inanimate object (a notepad, a clock, a computer) springing to life - ostensibly to teach the characters a lesson, but in reality causing chaos. The world they inhabit is brightly coloured, made entirely of felt and filled with puppets and anthropomorphic items. Characters are liable to burst into (very catchy) songs, be they outrageously hummable odes to organising a funeral, or an intercom (played by Adefope) singing a vocoder-packed

pop number about workplace stress management. Everything in DHMIS has always been handmade, which has meant fans are used to months passing between carefully crafted episodes. "It adds to the humour and the mystery, because you're like: 'Why would someone spend this much time making all this stuff?'" says Pelling. "There's definitely an element of: 'They've put so much effort into this, it *must* be good,'" adds Terry. "Or why would they spend their whole adult lives doing this?!" says Sloan. On TV, the homemade ethos remains - which will please fans who have been patiently waiting six years for it to appear. Keeping



the essence of the originals was vital, with a huge production team working to preserve the look and feel of the web series. You get a sense of the level of detail on screen, but as producers Hugo Donkin and Charlie Perkins show me behind the scenes, it's on another level. Perkins hands me a travel pamphlet - just a background prop - which I open to find pages covered in felt images of holiday locations. "People have been saying: 'It's not usually how we'd do it on TV,'" says Donkin. "We're not sure whether that's good or bad."

"There are so many props that might be for a one-second shot, but are so detailed," says Sloan. "The house wallet [one giant wallet shared by the three characters] made me laugh," says Sloan. "It's really over the top, it has a credit card with a number and date that no one will notice." Pelling says: "It's like outsider art - everyone's gone insane on set."

One part of the set features a stop-motion area where the team are working with clay, and in the carpentry zone it's "toilet day" as they craft replica loo stalls and urinals with eyes and limbs. Over in the prop-making area (AKA "the puppet hospital"), items include a felt vending machine full of cigarettes and bottles of mysterious dark liquid, a robot dog and an anthropomorphic coffin. There are also extra versions of the three main characters, as messy mishaps often put them beyond salvation. "We had to cover one of the puppets in hair gel to make it look like he was covered in saliva," says Sloan.

On a quiet, dark stage dubbed The Void, I watch as a confused Duck and Red Guy try to make out felt objects through the encroaching gloom. Unlike the eventual viewer, I can also see Josh Elwell, Duck's puppeteer, contorted on the floor behind a felt fridge so he remains out of shot. Bringing in professional puppeteers for television has added "so much personality and emotion", says Perkins. Sloan agrees: "There are some scenes in this series with Yellow Guy where people might cry!"

And what about one of the more bizarre trademark elements of the show: the amount of raw meat? For the TV version, they're using silicon replicas rather than actual animal products, with buckets of seemingly raw chicken breasts just odourless additions to the

prop shelves. This only came to pass after an incident where they used actual beef to fill a "horrible vending machine". It ended up smelling so bad the crew conceded it was time to switch to fakes.

By the time the final web episode was released in 2016, a DHMIS community had evolved online, with fans sharing increasingly wild theories about its true meaning. Is the puppet world all inside Red Guy's head, or is a sinister force controlling things from the outside? Terry's favourite theory features Bosnian Serb war criminal Radovan Karadžić, while Sloan is a huge fan of the conspiracy-level scrutiny they have attracted: "Someone saw that our cinematographer was called Ed Tucker and said: 'Has anyone else noticed that Ed Tucker is an anagram of Duck Tree?' But what does that mean?"

They refuse to debunk any of the theories. "It's all fed back into the DNA of the show," says Terry. The trio promise easter eggs throughout the TV series. "Knowing that the audience had that appetite for dissecting things gave us licence to treat them with a lot of intelligence," says Pelling. "We can put in lots of clues and people will find them."

There's even something to find in real life. On my visit, I witnessed a life-size red felt car sitting on stilts. Sloan later revealed that the crew dumped the car in the hope that the show's supersleuths might one day discover its location. "Fans can find the car where we left it," says Sloan. "They'll have to swim through a swamp to get there, but they can find it."

Given the longer runtimes that come with the move from YouTube to TV, DHMIS has had to evolve. Each of the new episodes has a theme - electricity, transport, death - and the characters go on longer adventures. "The show is slightly less manic," says Pelling. "We had to give the characters little desires and wants to drive the story, even if the desire is as simple as: 'I don't want to be in this room any more.'"

An unexpected detour helped them clarify what they wanted the TV series to be. Back in 2016, they made a pilot with a US company. It had a town and neighbours and was "a bit South Park", says Sloan. "We also made an attempt, and I'm going to whisper this, because it almost sounds like a dirty phrase, to get an element of *current affairs* into it," says Terry.

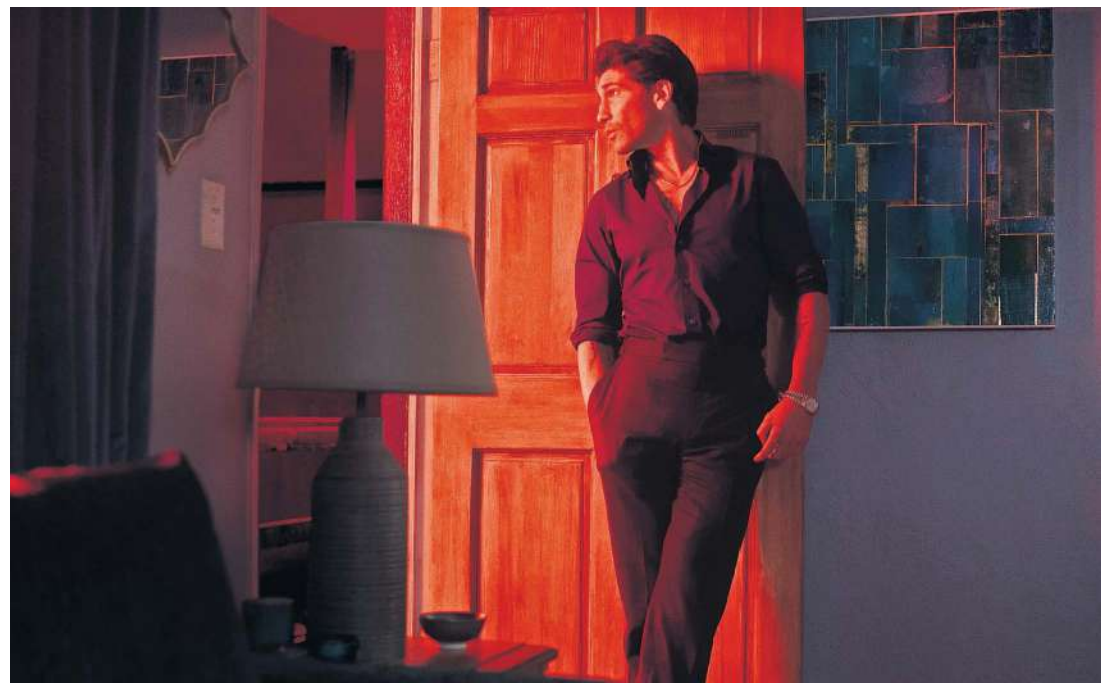
But the timelessness and claustrophobia of the originals was missing. Writing the new version during the pandemic, often over Zoom, may have helped recapture that oppressive vibe. "It was very strange writing a show about characters stuck inside during a time when we were all stuck inside," says Pelling. "So maybe there are points where we did actually go insane."

They've finished filming now, and the props and puppets are in storage, but the trio hope to exhibit them one day. "At some point, we'll have built everything in the world out of felt," says Pelling. Sloan pipes up: "No one can stop us!" *Don't Hug Me I'm Scared* is on All 4 from Monday and on Channel 4 later this month.

American Gigolo

Jon Bernthal is sexy - and that's the only good thing you can say about this tedious remake

Joel Golby



I figure I should fill you in on a couple of things that are going on with me right now, seeing as we're friends (we're friends, right?). The first thing is: I've been speeding through the first 30 interminable episodes of *Better Call Saul*, racing to the mythical bit where you all keep telling me it "gets really good", and secondly, I've been reading a lot of short stories. As you can imagine, my perception of time is fairly glooped out by the tandem consumption of these two art forms: one, a 30-hour trudge through the desert that occasionally, as a treat, devolves into an undramatic and unfunny court procedural; and the other, the most succinct way of getting to the point possible beyond a news bulletin. Inside me are two wolves: one is convinced every great TV show requires more than a day's worth of viewing to get its ideas across; and another thinks a good writer can do more with one page of a short story than most people can with an entire novel.

This has been exacerbated by watching *American Gigolo* (Paramount+, from Saturday), the Jon Bernthal-fronted remake of the Richard Gere name-maker from 1980, which - for 40 exhilarating minutes of the pilot - promises to be some of the most frenetic, fast-moving, sexy TV ever made. Then Act 3 happens. Then episode two, and then episode - oh no you're not. You're not going to believe this. There are seven more hours of this.

We'll start with the good bits: Jon Bernthal is very sexy, and I don't even think that is a political statement to make. He looks sexy in a suit, and he very frequently

takes the suit off and stares at it laid out on the bed, as if it is threatening him. He looks sexy when he's in prison on a wrongful conviction and when he slithers right out of there again and shaves his moustache off. He looks sexy walking around in a black T-shirt tucked into black trousers because he's humble, now. There's very little actual sex - almost none, weirdly - but sometimes Bernthal just oils his hair for a bit and you're like: ah, yeah. Good enough.

That's about it. The problem with remake culture - "What if we took a 42-year-old neo-noir crime drama about a high-flying LA escort being implicated in a murder and forced it through 2022's premium TV lens, so it looks terrible, and made it 10 hours long for absolutely no reason? Would that be good?" - isn't the fact that everything is a remake and nothing is original. The problem is, to pad out the protein of the source material with fibre enough to make it a TV meal, you have to give every character a backstory, a flashback, a motive, an interior life, and you have to play all of those along easy TV beats that everyone will get. If they gave *Taxi Driver* this treatment, for

There's very little actual sex, weirdly, but sometimes Bernthal oils his hair for a bit and you're like: ah, yeah. Good enough

instance - another Paul Schrader-written classic - they'd fill it with the same crap: too many nostalgic scenes about Travis Bickle's mother, an extended cold open where a 14-year-old Bickle touches a steering wheel for the first time while the music rises, a series finale where a wide-eyed young Bickle watches a guy with a mohawk stick up a gas station, enchanted.

In *American Gigolo*, this materialises as a completely wasted storyline about Gretchen Mol's son, some why-am-I-watching-these? scenes where Bernthal's Julian Kaye makes friends with his landlady, and a lot of him walking around places, remembering things. There are flashbacks to his adolescence that threaten to be interesting then turn out not to be. There is a murder-mystery going on throughout all this, and I would like to say it is intricate but it's actually just "drawn out and badly told". For some reason, every episode has long montages of footage we've already seen, often in the same episode. Rosie O'Donnell is the show's one other bright spot: she is doing a really interesting new flavour of blunt, gruff detective, and her and her character deserve the 10 hours more than Bernthal getting a job in a kitchen then remembering how he went to brunch once.

So it sucks, then. That's fine. In recent years, TV has been moving to a place where a lot of shows are designed to be half-watched while looking at your phone, and *American Gigolo* possibly threatens to take this concept even further: you don't even need to watch it with the sound on. Just look up from Instagram occasionally whenever Jon Bernthal is on screen.



Guitar heroes
Yellow Guy, Duck and Red Guy in Don't Hug Me I'm Scared



Pick of the week
Frozen Planet II
Sunday, 8pm, BBC One

Penguins! Gerbils! Seals! The fluffiest (and grumpiest) cats in the world! David Attenborough returns with another epic exploration of the world's frozen regions. One minute you're screaming at a grizzly bear chasing a muskox calf that's lost its parents, the next you're weirdly sad that a polar bear can't hunt seals because of the melting ice - and this image nails the urgent message in this incredible six-episode series. The frozen wilderness is disappearing at a faster rate than ever before, with the Arctic predicted to see ice-free summers by 2035. Each closeup shot of these amazing animals is a reminder of what the world will lose without taking immediate action. *Hollie Richardson*

Saturday

Pick of the day
Last Night of the Proms
7.10pm, BBC Two

Slip into your glad rags for the summer concert's closing performances. Katie Derham presents the final night, with Dalia Stasevska conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra, covering music by Verdi, Coleridge-Taylor, Wagner and Sibelius. Viewers are also treated to the premiere of a new work by rising star James B Wilson, which was commissioned to mark the BBC's centenary. Turn over to BBC One at 9pm for the concluding half, and catch a celebration of TV theme tunes and a special performance by choirmaster Gareth Malone. *HR*

Ukraine's Musical Freedom Fighters With Clive Myrie
6.10pm, BBC Two

This moving film hears from musicians whose lives have been turned upside down by the invasion - including some with family

members on the frontline - but who are assembling to perform at the Royal Albert Hall. Art is never an indulgence in such circumstances: it's clear their defence of Ukrainian culture is of crucial importance to the resistance. *Phil Harrison*

The Masked Dancer
6.30pm, ITV

As someone should probably say to the ITV schedulers: "Take it



Ukraine's Musical Freedom Fighters With Clive Myrie, Sat



The Masked Dancer, Sat

off! Take it off!" A second week of absurd anonymous jiggling sees another celebrity reveal themselves, after a series of bewildering battles: Pearly King v Onomatopoeia, Pig v Sea Slug, and Cactus v Tomato Sauce. *Jack Seale*

Griff's Canadian Adventure
9pm, Channel 4

On the penultimate leg of his east-to-west journey across Canada, Griff Rhys Jones gets lost in the prairies and vast sprawling plains of the Saskatchewan and Alberta provinces. Along the way, he faces ancient buffalo herds and stumbles upon dinosaur fossils. *HR*

State of Happiness
9pm, BBC Four

This absorbing Norwegian drama, set in a quiet fishing port transformed by the 1970s oil boom, intersects fictional characters with actual history. Tonight, season two's tense double bill finale tackles one of Norway's worst sea disasters: the 1980 capsizing of the Alexander Kielland platform with 200 souls aboard. *Graeme Virtue*



This Is Amapiano, Sun

Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?
9.30pm, ITV

There's a new twist to the classic quizshow, now in its 34th series. The contestants are the winners of Millionaire's new sister show, Fastest Finger First, which has been running on weekday afternoons. Only Jeremy Clarkson and 15 questions stand in their way. *HR*

Sunday

Pick of the day
How to With John Wilson
10pm, BBC Two

The deadpan documentary gives viewers a lesson in how to improve their memory tonight. He attempts to remember his food shop by observing clues on his journey: an apple rolling down a subway carriage, a fallen tree on a street that looks like broccoli, a dog pooing on the kerb (Nutella). *HR*

Ridley
8pm, ITV

A sultry exchange with jazz singer Eve leads Ridley (Adrian Dunbar) to search for her brother, who's been missing for 40 years. As the not-so-reclusive detective embarks on his mission, the pair get closer but there's soon a distraction when a woman is found murdered. If you're praying there won't be a song at the end, you might be disappointed. *Hannah Verdier*

The Capture
9pm, BBC One

Isaac (Paapa Essiedu) finally comes face to face with who's been deepfaking his, well - face! - in tonight's penultimate episode. Could the revelation make him reconsider his pact with Rachel (Holliday Grainger) to expose Correction? Tomorrow's finale has a lot to wrap up. *HR*

Mind Over Murder
9pm, Sky Crime

Continuing the troubling story of the Beatrice Six, wrongfully convicted in 1989 after being persuaded by a police psychologist that they had repressed their own memories of rape and murder. Decades later, defendant Joseph White maintains his innocence, and new DNA testing convinces advocates to push for a full exoneration. *Ali Catterall*

This Is Amapiano
11.35pm, BBC Three

Straight out of Soweto and, according to this short documentary, taking over the world, the sound of amapiano music is becoming a lifestyle for many young South Africans. Here, the roots of the genre are

explored (think deep house with kwaito basslines) and its cultural significance is discussed. *PH*

Monday

Pick of the day
Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next

9pm, BBC Three

The Capture might take deepfaking to far-fetched levels, but the reality is that there is a rising trend in doctoring harmless images into hardcore porn - and campaigners say laws around it in the UK don't go far enough to protect victims. This film speaks to three women who have suffered image-based sexual abuse, such as Dina, whose perpetrator was a colleague. *HR*

The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros

9pm, BBC Two

The story of Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro - his ascent from obscurity to power, via rightwing populism and media manipulation, and always with his four sons by his side - has parallels all over the world. This episode, the second of three instalments, examines the role of social media and scandal in his extraordinary 2018 electoral campaign. *Ellen E Jones*

The Suspect
9pm, ITV

"Joe, are you asking me to lie to the police?" A swirling blend of exasperation and infatuation, the penny finally drops for Cara (Bronagh Waugh) in tonight's thrilling episode. With the threads of Dr Joe O'Loughlin's (Aidan Turner) elaborate tapestry of lies rapidly unravelling, will his search for an alibi - and a plausible scapegoat - prove fruitful? *Danielle De Wolfe*

House of the Dragon
9pm, Sky Atlantic

Dastardly Daemon (TV's most lovable villain?) is back at King's Landing after defeating the Crabfeeder - and he's taking his niece Rhaenyra out of the Red Keep's four walls to celebrate. And boy, do those Targaryens know how to party ... But Rhaenyra must keep a clear head to choose a suitor. *HR*

Ladhood
10pm, BBC Three

The final series of Liam Williams's excellent coming-of-age comedy-drama continues. Liam is given a gambling account to work on as part of a new promotion, which forces him to recall the time he put his first bet on the Grand National - and the trouble that gambling caused his close friendships. *HR*

Question Team
10pm, Dave

One of the best of Dave's 58 lightly amusing parlour games returns. Jo Brand, Thanyia Moore and Josh Pugh pose questions on chocolate, movies and strongmen, but we're here for the host Richard Ayoade,



the sort of man who describes a round of appreciative applause as “Pink, corner pocket”. JS

Tuesday

Pick of the day **The Great British Bake Off** 8pm, Channel 4

A new series of Bake Off is exactly what the nation kneads (sorry, it's just too easy). Among this year's 12 contestants: Carole with the candy-floss hair, nuclear scientist James and, last but not yeast, salsa-dancing space dweeb Abdul. First up, it's cake week: the bakers must serve 12 mini-cakes, the perfect sponge and - strangely - a showstopper cake inspired by a house close to their hearts. *HR*

Storyville: Gorbachev. Heaven 9pm, BBC Four

How painfully symbolic it feels that the architect of glasnost should pass away at this time: hero to the west; traitor in his own land. In this intimate if wintry 2020 documentary, director Vitaliy Manskiy discovers the lonely 91-year-old Gorbachev in an empty house in Moscow - at once, gnomic, wry and (understandably) wary. A quietly shattering portrait. *AC*

Irma Vep 9pm, Sky Atlantic

The penultimate episode of Olivier Assayas's seductively meta series is upon us. With duct tape literally holding Cynthia Keng's latest scenes together, Mira (Alicia Vikander) harnesses her newfound powers as Irma Vep to do some serious eavesdropping. She also saves her director René from his own torment. *DDW*

First Dates Hotel 9.30pm, Channel 4

Twins Bethany and Shannon check into the hotel in the search for love tonight, because dating with a sibling is not at all weird. Annie is also looking for love in Italy - which happens to be the last place she visited with her ex-wife. *HR*

The 74th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards 10pm, Sky Max

With 25 nominations, how many gongs will Succession take home tonight? Or will new runners such as Yellowjackets, Hacks and Squid Game swoop in for the wins? Kenan Thompson - of Saturday Night Live fame - hosts TV's biggest event. *HR*

Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard 10.30pm, Channel 4

Abseiling down the National Lift Tower, anyone? It isn't the best start to Rosie Jones's tour

of Northamptonshire with this week's guest, Lady Leshurr - who is terrified of heights. To warm up, they take a flight in a microlight (“Essentially, a motorbike under a handkerchief”). *HR*

Wednesday

Pick of the day **Never Mind the Buzzcocks** 9pm, Sky Max

While the revived comedy music quiz can never match its Mark Lamarr and Simon Amstell heydays, nobody can dispute that host Greg Davies and team captains Noel Fielding and Daisy May Cooper are some of the best talent around to give it a go. In the first episode of the new series, guests Nile Rodgers, Russell Howard, Mae Muller and regular panellist Jamali Maddix play their best games. *HR*

Shetland 9pm, BBC One

“I'm sorry, Jimmy, but we have to play by the rules.” As series seven reaches its climax, Rhona Kelly (Julie Graham) appeals to Jimmy Perez's (Douglas Henshall) better judgment where confessions are concerned. But with Lerwick's increasingly desperate killer still at large, a chemical-laden truck could lead police straight to the culprit. *DDW*

Days That Shook the BBC With David Dimbleby 9pm, BBC Two

The series rehashing notable BBC slip-ups and scandals concludes by looking at the corporation's sometimes rocky relationship with its audience. On the docket: Russell Brand's snide voicemails, “treasonous” coverage of the Falklands war, and vile racist Nick Griffin being invited on to Dimbleby's own Question Time. *GV*

Brassic 9.45pm, Sky Max

The lairy comedy about likable layabouts continues, with Vinnie (Joe Gilgun) and the gang attempting to return retired greyhound Arson Fire to his former glory. This caper soon spirals out of control, necessitating a stressful sauna parley with local heavies the MacDonagh brothers. *GV*

Christopher Eccleston **Remembers - Our Friends** **in the North**

10pm, BBC Four
Peter Flannery's 1996 epic is rightly considered one of the finest TV series of all time. This is a very personal reflection as Eccleston looks back on the drama that helped make his name. The actor has expressed a desire to return to this story, as its themes of idealism and disappointment still feel so relevant. *PH*

The Great 11.05pm, Channel 4

A scene near the end of this episode will make you splutter, gasp and laugh all at once, while mildly aroused - it is this show at its best. Before that, Catherine (Elle Fanning) has a classic problem: her visiting mother (Gillian Anderson) is a somewhat divisive presence in the household. *JS*

Thursday

Pick of the day **My Grandparents' War:** **Kit Harington** 9pm, Channel 4

Kit Harington's most iconic Game of Thrones episode might be Battle of the Bastards - but, as he finds out in tonight's new season opener, all four of his grandparents were real-life heroes in the second world war. Among the moving and shocking revelations, Harington is utterly captivated to learn that two of them worked with the secret services alongside James Bond creator Ian Fleming. *HR*

The National Television Awards 2022 8pm, ITV

Who needs the LA glitz and glam of the Emmys when we have Joel Dommett handing Ant & Dec their 21st consecutive award at the NTAs? (Please, Alison Hammond, usurp them!) Other nominees include: Netflix's Heartstopper for best new drama and Channel 4's Derry Girls for best comedy. *HR*

All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star 9pm, BBC Two

“Have you ever heard of jewellery made from concrete?” Well



Christopher Eccleston Remembers: Our Friends in the North, Wed

tonight's your lucky night - the contestants must make a brooch using contemporary materials (which also includes string - fabulous!). They then create ear cuffs for an LGBTQ+ event. *HR*

All Creatures Great and Small 9pm, Channel 5

The hand-up-a-cow's-bum drama opens its new season with big changes for the vets. James and Helen are preparing for their honeymoon, but there's still work to be done: treating an outbreak of tuberculosis among local cows and a vomiting dog. Can big boss Siegfried give James a new focus with an offer he can't refuse? *HV*

Stuck
10pm, BBC Two
There's nothing worse than getting home and finding your partner smoking a spliff with their “favourite” ex on the sofa. So spare a thought for Dan (Dylan Moran) who does exactly that in tonight's double bill - just moments after having a crisis in a changing room because nothing fits him. *HR*

Late Night Mash 10pm, Dave

This witty topical comedy show has been consistently excellent despite hopping channels and hosts. Now fronted by the lively Rachel Parris, it's hard to imagine it going off its game any time soon, given that we're living in an age when news headlines already border on dark comedy. *Alexi Duggins*

Friday

Pick of the day **Am I Being Unreasonable?** 9.30pm, BBC One

Daisy May Cooper's new comedy will have you wincing in horror within the first few minutes. And yet, over the next half-hour - despite more twisted and dark turns - you'll also likely be chuckling throughout. Written by Cooper and her real-life best friend Selin Hizli, it focuses on Nic (Cooper) who is unhappy in her marriage (“Does your husband ever give you the ick so much that your vagina dries up?”) and secretly grieving someone she cannot tell anybody about. Can she

trust her new friend Jen (Hizli)? With Jack Thorne (This Is England) producing, the show cleverly balances silliness and tragedy. *HR*

The Great British Bake Off: **An Extra Slice** 8pm, Channel 4

Jo Brand is back with the beloved Bake Off bonus series. Her first guests are comedian Harry Hill, radio DJ Melvin Odom and After Life's Roisin Conaty. They will be joined by the first contestant to be graciously booted out of the tent, while Tom Allen judges the audience's baking attempts. *HR*

Have I Got News for You 9pm, BBC One

Digesting the headlines a week into Liz Truss's “leadership”, Labour MP Jess Phillips hosts tonight's show. Conservative peer Ruth Davidson and comedian Henning Wehn will join team captain stalwarts Paul Merton and Ian Hislop. *HR*

Mortimer & Whitehouse: **Gone Fishing** 9pm, BBC Two

Among the best episodes of this constantly delightful show are the ones with a particular, near-mythical quarry. Tonight, can Paul finally catch himself a magnificent grayling? Either way, the River Dee on the Crogen Estate in north Wales provides some magnificent vistas. Bob, meanwhile, sets up a coffee shop. *JS*

Professor T 9pm, ITV

The jaunty crime drama based on the Belgian series of the same name returns for a second season. Ben Miller is the fastidious titular criminology professor, who tonight is called in to help the police when a student is left in a coma after being badly burned in a deliberate fire. *HR*

Munich Games 9pm, Sky Atlantic

With two days to go until the big Israel v Germany football friendly, tensions are rising among the officers charged with preventing a terrorist attack. German detective Maria and her Mossad agent partner Oren can't get a handle on their slippery prime suspect. Meanwhile, all the real spycraft is happening in the stands. *EEJ*



Am I Being Unreasonable?, Fri



Pick of the week
American Gigolo
Paramount+, from Saturday

Following the 1980 film, this series stars Jon Bernthal in Richard Gere's role of Julian Kaye, now leaving prison after a wrongful murder conviction and trying to get to the bottom of the frame that stole 15 years of his life. Gabriel LaBelle plays young Julian, as the roots of his work in the LA sex industry are explored. It's a bleak and understated affair - Kaye's emotional disconnection was one of the features of the film and Bernthal picks up where Gere left off, animating the inner life of an alienated, successful, damaged grifter whose troubled childhood and professional need to scroll through multiple identities have left him utterly adrift from himself. *Phil Harrison*



Don't Hug Me I'm Scared

All 4, from Monday
 Talk about a slow burn. This oddball creation first surfaced as a web series in summer 2011. After more than a decade of amusingly glacial progress, it's finally become a TV series. Created by Becky Sloan and Joseph Pelling, the show is disconcertingly unpredictable surrealism disguised as a children's puppet show. Initially, there are top notes of Sesame Street and Rainbow. But macabre details of a much darker hue soon become inescapable. Delightfully demented and, despite first appearances, probably not one to share with the little ones. *PH*



Sins of Our Mother

Netflix, from Wednesday
 This week's fresh helping of true crime is a jaw-dropping illustration of the dangers of religious extremism. Lori Vallow was a diligent mother of three until she met a man called Chad Daybell who was an adherent of various Christian doomsday cults. Vallow was seduced by his value system, and soon became erratic. The couple committed multiple killings, including those of two of Vallow's children. This three-part series tells the disturbing story, centring on the testimony of Vallow's son, Colby, who is currently on bail after being arrested for alleged sex crimes. *PH*



Heartbreak High

Netflix, from Wednesday
 A racy reboot of the 90s Aussie teen classic. The original broke a few boundaries itself, often praised for its enlightened treatment of multiculturalism. This time, the emphasis is on sexual and gender diversity: loudmouth Amerie (Ayesha Madon) has created a "sex map" detailing all the preferences, affairs and one-night stands of her fellow students. Before long, she's made herself a pariah, outed several classmates and earned herself the nickname "psycho map bitch". It's bold, brash and renders the sheer drama of adolescence with horny, unapologetic glee. *PH*

The Serpent Queen
StarzPlay, from Sunday

One of the least solemn or reverent historical dramas you'll see - and it's an appropriate treatment of the subject matter, since Catherine de Medici lived a life constantly turned up to 11. Born in 1519, Catherine was, in the words of Charles Dance's Pope Clement, "the orphan offspring of the most despised family in France". She had to live by her wits from an early age and managed to claw her way to the very highest levels of power. In this entertainingly grubby and brutish series, she's played with arch iciness by Samantha Morton, while Liv Hill does a persuasive job of rendering the smart, sneaky younger Catherine. *PH*



Minx

Paramount+, from Wednesday
 Joyce (Ophelia Lovibond) is a young feminist who edits a magazine called The Matriarchy Awakens. Business is slow - even in 1970s LA, her labour of love is a little earnest to cut through. Fortunately, she's about to meet Doug (Jake Johnson), a porn publisher who has spotted a market for female-facing erotica. The characters are broadly drawn: Joyce is a snob who corrects people on their pronunciations of French words; Doug is a sleaze with as many different words for the penis as the Inuit are said to have for snow. But the odd couple have a certain chemistry. *PH*



Vampire Academy

Peacock, from Thursday
 Adapted from Richelle Mead's YA novels, this series brings the world of St Vladimir's Academy to life - albeit not much more convincingly than the 2014 film version. It's a coming-of-age story as two young women, Rose (Sisi Stringer) and Lissa (Daniela Nieves), become friends across social boundaries. What unfolds is an overfamiliar story of class gradations as the girls strain against the preordained limits of their society. Vampires are usually a safe bet in commissioning terms, but the teen drama gloss can't make up for some decidedly creaky performances. *PH*



Catchup TV

A startling tale of injustice and the fall of Armie Hammer



Mind Over Murder
Sky Crime/Now
★★★★★

In terms of its content, this series is as psyche-shatteringly batshit as any of its many stablemates in the true-crime documentary genre. It looks at the 1985 murder of 68-year-old grandmother Helen Wilson – and the case against the alleged perpetrators, the Beatrice Six. Using footage from police interviews, film-maker Nanfu Wang reconstructs the investigation that led to the six's confessions and then, of course, peels back the layers of apparent truth (which in reality took the next 35 years) to reveal their innocence, how they came to be convicted and exonerated and the real murderer identified. The programme-makers also commission a play to be performed by the local theatre group, using verbatim dialogue from interview, trial and appeal transcripts. It's an inspired decision. *Lucy Mangan*

House of Hammer
Discovery+
★★★★☆

"Magnify Succession a million times and it was literally my family," says Armie Hammer's aunt Casey in this three-part documentary series about the film star. It details how his career ended virtually overnight last year, when the internet lit up with rumours (all of which he denies) of emotional and physical abuse, followed by a direct accusation of rape for which Hammer was investigated but not charged. But then it goes further, showing the disgraced actor to be the product of extraordinarily toxic privilege. We're told that Armand Hammer – Armie's great-grandfather – was quietly one of the 20th century's most powerful men, during which British viewers might experience a sudden chill of recognition as Prince Charles and Lady Di appear. *Jack Seale*

Ladhood
BBC Three/iPlayer
★★★★☆

As ever, the third series of Liam Williams's semi-autobiographical comedy switches between the lives of adult Liam, now 34, in a rut and wondering how he ended up like this, and the teenage Liam, 18, preparing for his A-levels and being encouraged to apply for Oxbridge. The split timeline means we know, roughly, how it turned out, but by the end of the series, adult Liam is considering a move back up north to rip it all up and start again. Though a lot of this is about banter and teenage boys making fools of themselves, it is also thoughtful and moving. Williams says this will likely be the last series "as I have simply run out of memories". I will be sad to see the back of it because he has turned those memories into consistently great TV. *Rebecca Nicholson*

Wedding Season
Disney+
★★★★☆

I hate going to weddings, so I was set to enjoy Oliver Lyttelton's eight-part creation in which almost an entire bridal party ends up fatally poisoned. But before that, it begins with Stefan (Gavin Drea) as he interrupts the wedding of Katie (Rosa Salazar), the woman with whom he has been having an affair. We next see Stefan in a police interview room, startled to learn he is the prime suspect along with the now missing Katie. They embark on a mission across the UK and US to clear their names, and we see flashbacks to many more weddings and engagement parties at which their paths crossed. The series becomes a frenetic blend of romcom, road movie and action thriller; an ambitious undertaking that manages to be entertaining enough. *LM*

Audio



Podcasts

Pick of the week

The World According to Tubey and Hyder

Widely available, episodes weekly

Better known as the sidekicks to the titular chef in the Bafta-winning Big Zuu's Big Eats, the west London school friends (and housemates) get their own show. Recorded in their living room, it's an endearingly rambling chat featuring interruptions from Big Zuu as he wanders through. The first episode is very much scene setting, but we're promised guests such as grime star AJ Tracey and MC Capo Lee in future instalments. *Alexi Duggins*

What Would You Do If You Weren't Afraid?

Widely available, episodes weekly

Speaking to people experiencing an existential crisis, the TikTok executive, leadership coach and bestselling author Michal Oshman's new series gives listeners tools and frameworks to help tackle fear. She also chats to guests such as Candice Brathwaite – a gorgeously upbeat but frank interviewee. *Hollie Richardson*

The Loudest Girl in the World

Widely available, episodes weekly

Self-confessed "talkaholic" Lauren Ober always found life a little harder than it should be, but a surprise diagnosis of autism during the pandemic explained why. In this podcast, she's open about the anxiety and sensory issues that led to accusations of bad behaviour at school – and cruel, unfair punishments. *Hannah Verdier*

Björk: Sonic Symbolism

Widely available, episodes weekly

The idea of Björk (pictured above right) discussing the textures and emotional landscape of her



10 albums ("mohair ... beige ...") could come across as pretentious, but she's just so lovable, floaty and otherworldly that she manages to pull it off. From singing on her cold journey to school to sitting in a steam room with Brian Eno, she has a lot of stories, too. *HV*

Beneath the Skin

Widely available, episodes weekly

From imaging techniques looking at the tattoos of ancient Egyptian mummies to a historiographical analysis of the rise of skin ink in 18th-century Europe, this podcast puts a cultural and historical lens on tattooing. It's a breezy, informative look at the art form, hosted by art history lecturer, tattoo historian and author Dr Matt Lodder. *AD*



Radio

The Downing Street Doppelganger

Sat, 3pm, Radio 4

"We can't have another pandemic, not after Spanish flu ..." Jim Poyser's rollicking political farce might be set in 1922 but modern parallels abound. After a close encounter with a pig, the prime minister is secretly in a catatonic state; his harrumphing fixers promptly recruit Manchester music hall comic Danny Finetime to impersonate the PM. The satirical jabs and bawdy one-liners fly thick and fast as Danny (John Thomson, clearly having a ball in dual roles) tries and flails in the corridors of power. *Graeme Virtue*

Northern Drift

Mon, 9.30pm, Radio 3

The wonderful Trades Club in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, is the venue for this new series of poetry and music showcases. Tonight's guests are Yorkshire folk duo Bryony and Alice and Manchester poet Shirley May, who combines northern English and Caribbean roots. There's a focus on performance but also on process – in between pieces, Elizabeth Alker talks to the artists about how songs are born, what they mean to the communities in which they're popular and how they survive. *Phil Harrison*

The Boy in the Woods

Mon, 1.45pm, Radio 4

"A haunting real-life story" is how presenter Winifred Robinson describes this incredibly detailed examination of the murder of six-year-old Rikki Neave. There are astonishing amounts of visual detail, facts and revealing interviews – archive and current – as the first in this 10-part series looks at an investigation that missed the real killer for decades. *Alexi Duggins*

Icon

Tue, 11.30am, Radio 4

Before there was "Brangelina" or "Bennifer" there were Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton (pictured above), a Hollywood couple so iconic they warranted their own, individual monikers. Here, Taylor biographer Ellis Cashmore, photojournalist Danny Hayward and philosopher Professor Angie Hobbs discuss how a (supposedly) candid photograph of a couple embracing on a yacht in the summer of 1962 came to herald a new era of celebrity. *Ellen E Jones*



Pick of the week
Everything Everywhere All at Once
Out now, Prime Video

A breakout hit in cinemas this summer, this kaleidoscopic action fantasy from Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert (AKA the Daniels) deserves repeat viewings to get the most out of it. The plot centres on Evelyn (Michelle Yeoh, revelling in the chance to do comedy), who runs a failing laundrette with sad-sack husband Waymond (Key Huy Quan) and alienated daughter Joy (Stephanie Hsu). However, on a visit to tax inspector Deirdre (Jamie Lee Curtis), Evelyn finds herself propelled into a multiverse in which she adopts a wild variety of personas in an attempt to stop a nefarious version of Joy from destroying all life. A furiously fast-paced, visually vibrant and epic entertainment. *Simon Wardell*



Sammy Going South

Saturday, 9.05pm, Talking Pictures TV
 One of Alexander Mackendrick's lesser-known films after his glory days at Ealing Studios, this 1963 movie is almost an anti-Disney adventure in its lack of sentimentality about childhood. Sammy (Fergus McClelland) is a 10-year-old English boy living in Port Said, Egypt. When his parents are killed in a bombing, the traumatised boy sets off to find his aunt - in South Africa. His 5,000-mile odyssey features encounters with strangers good and bad, including Edward G Robinson's roguish diamond smuggler. *SW*



Vertigo

Monday, 11am, Film4
 Alfred Hitchcock's disturbing 1958 thriller is "the greatest film of all time", according to Sight & Sound's 2012 critics' poll. Whether or not it remains there in this year's update, it's still a brilliantly twisted study of obsession, featuring a career-high performance by James Stewart. His retired cop, Scottie, is asked to follow Madeleine (Kim Novak), a friend's wife who has been acting unusually, but the fear of heights that made him quit the force rears its head again in tragic fashion. Later, however, he meets Judy, who is the spitting image of Madeleine ... *SW*

Rita, Sue and Bob Too

Monday, 9pm, Talking Pictures TV
 The brief but distinctive career of Bradford writer Andrea Dunbar reached the big screen with Alan Clarke's defiantly realistic 1987 adaptation of two of her plays. On a working-class estate, two teenage friends (played by Siobhan Finneran and Michelle Holmes) babysit for a married man (the satyr-like George Costigan) - and both end up having sex with him. The story is bracingly funny but has a strain of Loachian hard knocks in its depiction of the lack of choices available in their world. *SW*

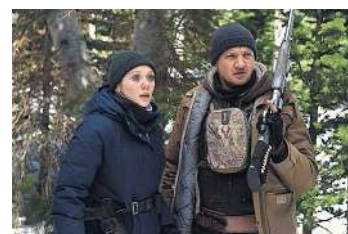


Raiders of the Lost Ark

Tuesday, 9pm, Film4
 A daily dose of Indy films begins with Steven Spielberg's original (and easily the best) historical adventure. Harrison Ford dons the hat and whip as the peripatetic archaeology professor/treasure hunter for a giddily enjoyable yarn of Nazis, hidden loot and giant rolling stones that wouldn't look out of place in a 1940s matinee double bill. Karen Allen is much more than a damsel in distress as Jones's love interest Marion, while John Williams's rousing score is the cherry on top. *SW*

Wind River

Thursday, 11.35pm, Film4
 In between Marvel assignments, Elizabeth Olsen and Jeremy Renner teamed up for Taylor Sheridan's atmospheric crime drama. She's the FBI agent sent to a Native American reservation in Wyoming in the depths of winter after a teenage girl's frozen corpse is discovered. He's the US Fish and Wildlife service agent who uses his local knowledge to help her investigate the case. The landscape here is as much of a character as the people shaped by its beauty, isolation and unforgiving nature, while the two leads give emotional width to a compelling police procedural. *SW*



Meek's Cutoff

Friday, 1pm, Great! Movies Action
 In 1845 Oregon, a wagon train of settlers is being guided across the parched land by grizzled know-it-all Stephen Meek (Bruce Greenwood). But as their water supply runs down, the pragmatic Emily (Michelle Williams) begins to suspect he has no more clue of the way than they do. This is a western, but it's a Kelly Reichardt western, so don't expect the typical escapades, even when a Native American turns up. It's a foreboding drama of half-heard conversations and imperfect knowledge, of uncertain fate and the tragic clash of cultures. *SW*



Sport

Golf PGA Championship
Sat, 8.30am, Sky Sports Golf
 The third day's play at Wentworth.

Test Cricket England v South Africa
Sat, 10.15am, Sky Sports Cricket
 Day three of the series-concluding third Test at the Oval.

Premier League Football Fulham v Chelsea
Sat, 11.30am, BT Sport 1
 Plus Man City v Tottenham at 5pm on Sky Sports Main Event.

Super League Rugby Huddersfield v Salford
Sat, 12.30pm, Channel 4
 The second eliminator.

Premiership Rugby Union Exeter Chiefs v Leicester Tigers
Sat, 2.30pm, BT Sport 2
 Champions Leicester, captained by Hanro Liebenberg (pictured above), kick off their season at Sandy Park.

Women's Super League Football Chelsea v West Ham
Sun, 12.15pm, BBC One
 The derby at Stamford Bridge.

Women's T20 Cricket England v India
Tue, 5.30pm, BBC Two
 The second match, at the County Ground in Derby; the third is on Thursday, 6pm, Sky Sports Cricket.

Uefa Champions League Football Liverpool v Ajax
Tue, 7pm, BT Sport 2
 Sporting Lisbon v Tottenham is on BT Sport 4 at 5pm.

Uefa Champions League Football Man City v Borussia Dortmund
Wed, 7pm, BT Sport 2
 Chelsea v Red Bull Salzburg is on BT Sport 3 at 7.15pm.

Brad & Angelina:
The Rise & Fall
of a Hollywood
Marriage, Channel 5



BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5	BBC Four
<p>6.0 Breakfast (T) 10.0 Saturday Kitchen (T) 11.30 Mary Berry: Cook & Share (T) (R) 12.0 Football Focus (T) 1.0 News (T) 1.10 Weather (T) 1.15 Bargain Hunt (T) (R) 2.10 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 2.40 FILM The Secret Life of Pets 2 (Chris Renaud, Jonathan del Val, 2019) (T) 4.0 Final Score (T) 5.30 Superman & Lois (T) 6.10 News (T) 6.25 Regional News and Weather (T) 6.30 Weather (T) 6.35 The Hit List (T) 7.20 Pointless Celebrities (T)</p>	<p>6.35 CBeebies (T) (R) 7.20 CBBC (T) 9.0 Deadly Pole to Pole (T) (R) 10.0 Animal Super Parents (T) (R) 11.0 12 Puppies and Us (T) (R) 12.0 Rick Stein's Spain (T) (R) 1.0 The Best Dishes Ever (T) (R) 1.10 FILM The 39 Steps (Alfred Hitchcock, 1935) (T) 2.35 FILM The Lady Vanishes (Alfred Hitchcock, 1938) (T) 4.10 All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star (T) (R) 5.10 Richard Osman's House of Games (T) 5.40 Unbeatable (T) 6.10 Ukraine's Musical Freedom Fighters With Clive Myrie (T)</p>	<p>6.0 CITV 8.25 News (T) 8.30 Garraway's Good Stuff (T) (R) 9.25 James Martin's Saturday Morning (T) 11.35 James Martin's Great British Adventure (T) (R) 12.35 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make (T) (R) 1.10 News and Weather (T) 1.25 Racing: Live from Doncaster (T) 4.0 Celebrity Lingo (T) (R) 5.0 News and Weather (T) 5.20 Local News and Weather (T) 5.30 Ninja Warrior UK: Race for Glory (T) 6.30 The Masked Dancer (T)</p>	<p>6.15 The King of Queens (T) (R) 7.05 Frasier (T) (R) 8.30 The Big Bang Theory (T) (R) 9.55 The Simpsons (T) (R) 11.30 Jamie Oliver: Together (T) (R) 12.30 Live Super League Rugby (T) Huddersfield Giants v Salford Red Devils. The second eliminator (kick-off 12.30pm). 3.15 A Place in the Sun (T) 4.0 Escape to the Chateau (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 5.30 Finding the Cornish Dream (T) 6.30 Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights (T)</p>	<p>6.0 Milkshake! 10.0 The Smurfs (T) (R) 10.15 SpongeBob SquarePants (T) (R) 10.25 Entertainment News (T) 10.35 Friends (T) (R) 12.45 FILM Jesse Stone: Innocents Lost (Dick Lowry, 2011) (T) 2.35 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) (R) 4.30 The Greek Islands With Bettany Hughes (T) 5.55 News (T) 6.0 Cruising the Canary Islands With Susan Calman (T)</p>	<p>7.0 Cricket: Today at the Test (T) (R) England v South Africa. Action from day three of the series-concluding third Test, held at the Oval.</p>
<p>8.10 Casualty (T) David accidentally reveals his true identity to Susan. 9.0 Last Night of the Proms (T) Continued live coverage from the Royal Albert Hall, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra in Villa-Lobos's Bachianas Brasileiras and a new work by Iain Farrington celebrating TV theme tunes.</p>	<p>7.10 Last Night of the Proms (T) Katie Derham presents live coverage from the Royal Albert Hall in London, with Dalia Stasevska conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra in music by Verdi, Coleridge-Taylor, Wagner and Grieg. 9.0 Cher at the BBC (T) (R) Archive footage of the singer's performances.</p>	<p>8.0 The Voice UK (T) Emma Willis presents the spinning-chair singing contest, with Anne-Marie, Olly Murs, Tom Jones and will.i.am overseeing another round of blind auditions. 9.30 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? (T) Jeremy Clarkson hosts the big-money general knowledge quiz.</p>	<p>8.0 Britain By Beach (T) Anita Rani presents a guide to the coastline of Wales, beginning by exploring the legends of Harlech Castle. 9.0 Griff's Canadian Adventure (T) Griff Rhys Jones explores the prairies and plains of the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, which hide a diversity of riches.</p>	<p>8.0 Princess Margaret & the Photographer: A Scandalous Marriage (T) (R) A look at Princess Margaret's marriage to Antony Armstrong-Jones. 9.0 Brad & Angelina: The Rise & Fall of a Hollywood Marriage (T) How a seemingly perfect love story became one of the most toxic feuds in American movie history.</p>	<p>8.0 Golf: PGA Championship (T) (R) Highlights of day three at Wentworth, Surrey. 9.0 State of Happiness (T) The Alexander Kielland platform capsizes with more than 200 people on board. In Norwegian and English. 9.45 State of Happiness (T) The rescue operation following the tragedy continues.</p>
<p>10.15 News (T) Weather 10.35 Match of the Day (T) Man City v Tottenham and Fulham v Chelsea. 11.55 FILM The Keeper (Marcus H Rosenmüller, 2018) (T) Biopic of Man City goalkeeper Bert Trautmann. Starring David Kross. 1.45 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 1.50 News (T)</p>	<p>10.0 Viva La Diva: The Queens of Pop (R) With Ana Matronic. 11.0 Mariah Carey at the BBC (T) (R) A selection of archive appearances. 12.0 Cricket: Today at the Test (T) (R) 1.0 Golf: PGA Championship (T) 2.0 Cricket: Women's T20 Highlights (T) 2.30 This Is BBC Two (T)</p>	<p>10.25 News (T) Weather 10.40 The Jonathan Ross Show (T) (R) With David Attenborough, Sheridan Smith, Kevin Hart, Michael Caine and Julie Walters. 11.10 English Football League Highlights (T) 1.05 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Unwind With ITV (T) 4.15 Love Your Weekend (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.0 FILM Mission: Impossible III (JJ Abrams, 2006) (T) Action thriller sequel, starring Tom Cruise, Philip Seymour Hoffman and Michelle Monaghan. 12.30 FILM Pitch Perfect 3 (2017) (T) 2.05 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 2.55 Car S.O.S (T) (R) 3.45 Come Dine With Me (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.15 Most Shocking Celebrity Break Ups (T) (R) 12.10 World's Funniest TV Ads With Jason Manfred (T) (R) 1.05 The Live Casino Show (T) 3.05 What a Treat! Our Favourite Sweets (T) (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R) 5.50 Fireman Sam (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.30 The Last Battle of the Vikings (T) (R) The influence of the Vikings in Scotland. 11.30 Timeshift: The Great British Seaside Holiday (T) (R) A celebration of the British seaside holiday experience. 12.15 Keeping Up Appearances 12.45 Ever Decreasing Circles 1.15 Apples 2.15 The Hidden Wilds of the Motorway</p>

Other channels

<p>BBC Three 7.0pm EastEnders 7.30 EastEnders 8.0 FILM Divergent (2014) Sci-fi adventure, starring Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Zoë Kravitz and Kate Winslet. 10.10 Red Rose 10.45 Red Rose 11.25 Ladhood 11.50 Ladhood 12.15 The Rap Game UK 1.15 Dubai Hustle 1.45 Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond 2.15 David Beckham Into the Unknown 3.45 Zen Motoring</p> <p>Dave 6.0am Teleshopping 7.25 Driving Wars 8.20 Rick Stein's Secret France 9.20 Rick Stein's India 10.20 Top Gear Bolivia Special 12.0 Top Gear 1.0 World's Most Dangerous Roads 2.0 World's Most Dangerous Roads 3.0 Top Gear 4.0 Red Bull Soapbox Race 2015: London 6.0 Would I Lie to You? 6.40 Would I Lie to You? 7.20 Would I Lie to You? 8.0 Not Going Out 8.40 Not Going Out 9.20 Not Going Out 10.0 QI 10.40 Would I Lie to You? 11.20 Would I Lie to You? 12.0 QI XL 1.0 Dave Gorman: Terms and Conditions Apply 2.0 Room 101 2.35 Room 101 3.05 Room 101 4.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>E4 6.0am Rude(ish) Tube Shorts 6.10 Don't Tell the Bride 7.05 Wipeout USA 8.0 Lego Masters Australia 9.25 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 12.25 Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell and Back 1.25 The Big Bang Theory 1.55 The Big Bang Theory 2.25 The Big Bang Theory 2.55 The Big Bang Theory 3.25 The Big Bang Theory 3.55 The Big Bang Theory 4.25 The Big Bang Theory 4.50 The Big Bang Theory 5.20 The Big Bang Theory 5.50 The Big Bang Theory 6.20 FILM Little Women (2019) 9.0 Celebrity Gogglebox 10.0 Gogglebox 11.05 Gogglebox 12.10 First Dates Hotel 2.15 Celebrity Gogglebox 3.10 Derry Girls 3.40 Hollyoaks Omnibus</p> <p>Film4 11.0am FILM Zoo (2017) Family drama, starring Toby Jones. 12.55 FILM Little Monsters (1989) Comedy, starring Fred Savage. 2.45 FILM Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) Comedy sequel, starring Macaulay Culkin. 5.05 FILM Junior (1994) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. 7.15</p>	<p>FILM Johnny English Strikes Again (2018) Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson. 9.0 FILM The Girl in the Spider's Web (2018) Thriller, starring Claire Foy. 11.15 FILM The Last Witch Hunter (2015) Fantasy adventure, starring Vin Diesel. 1.20 FILM Dogs Don't Wear Pants (2019) Drama, starring Pekka Strang.</p> <p>ITV2 6.0am World's Funniest Videos 6.35 Coronation Street Omnibus 9.15 Love Bites 10.15 Love Bites 11.20 Dress to Impress 12.20 Dress to Impress 1.25 Family Fortunes 2.30 Celebrity Catchphrase 3.35 FILM Dr Dolittle 2 (2001) Comedy sequel, starring Eddie Murphy. 5.20 FILM King Kong (2005) Fantasy adventure remake, starring Naomi Watts. 9.0 FILM 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003) Thriller sequel, starring Paul Walker. 11.10 Family Guy 11.40 Family Guy 12.10 American Dad! 12.35 American Dad! 1.05 Iain Stirling's CelebAbility 1.50 Don't Hate the Playaz 2.30 World's Funniest Videos 2.55 Unwind With ITV 3.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>Sky Max 6.0am Supergirl 7.0 Supergirl 8.0 Supergirl 9.0 Supergirl 10.0 Grimm 11.0 Grimm 12.0 Grimm 1.0 Grimm 2.0 Hawaii Five-0 3.0 Hawaii Five-0 4.0 Hawaii Five-0 5.0 Hawaii Five-0 6.0 S.W.A.T 7.0 NCIS: Los Angeles 8.0 A League of Their Own 9.0 Strike Back: Vendetta 10.0 Banshee 11.05 Brassic 12.05 The Force: North East 1.0 The Force: North East 2.0 Road Wars 3.0 Road Wars 4.0 Stop, Search, Seize 5.0 Stop, Search, Seize</p> <p>Sky Arts 6.0am Beethoven: The Complete Symphonies 6.45 LA Philharmonic Centennial Birthday Gala 8.30 Tales of the Unexpected 9.0 Tales of the Unexpected 9.30 Tales of the Unexpected</p>	<p>10.0 Tales of the Unexpected 10.30 Tales of the Unexpected 11.0 Wonderland: From JM Barrie to JRR Tolkien 12.0 Inside Art: Picasso/Ingres at the National Gallery 12.30 Video Killed the Radio Star 1.0 Guy Garvey: From the Vaults 2.0 Guy Garvey: From the Vaults 3.0 Simon & Garfunkel: Concert in Central Park 5.0 Paul Simon: Under African Skies 7.0 Video Killed the Radio Star 7.30 Video Killed the Radio Star 8.0 Tina Turner: Live in Barcelona 10.10 Video Killed the Radio Star 10.40 Classic Albums 11.40 FILM Rope (1948) 1.20 Brad Mehldau Plays the Beatles 2.30 Beatles Stories 4.30 The Live Revival 5.30 Video Killed the Radio Star</p> <p>Sky Atlantic 6.0am Fish Town 10.0 Boardwalk Empire 3.30 The Sopranos 4.40 The Sopranos 5.45 The Sopranos 6.50 The Sopranos 7.55 The Sopranos 9.0 Game of Thrones 10.05 Game of Thrones 11.10 Game of Thrones 12.15 Game of Thrones 1.25 Game of Thrones 2.25 The Gilded Age 3.30 In Treatment 4.0 Storm City</p>	<p>Radio 3 7.0am Breakfast. From the BBC's Contains Strong Language festival in Birmingham. 9.0 Record Review. With Andrew McGregor. 11.45 Music Matters. With Norwegian soprano Lise Davidsen. 12.30 This Classical Life. Jess Gillam chats to violinist Geneva Lewis. 1.0 Inside Music. Percussionist Calum Huggan chooses a selection of pieces. 3.0 Sound of Cinema. Matthew Sweet chats to composer Tom Holkenborg. 4.30 Music Planet. Lopa Kothari marks 200 years of Brazilian independence. 5.30 J to Z. Kevin Le Gendre pays tribute to trumpeter Jaimie Branch. 6.30 Edinburgh International Festival. A 1976 recital by Spanish pianist Alicia de Larrocha. (R) 7.15 BBC Proms 2022. The Last Night of the Proms, live from the Royal Albert Hall. Dalia Stasevska conducts the BBC Symphony Orchestra, soprano Lise Davidsen and cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason in pieces by Verdi, Wagner, Coleridge-Taylor and many others, as well as a salute to a century of innovation</p>	<p>from James B Wilson, plus all the traditional Last Night favourites. 11.0 New Music Show. A performance of Bryn Harrison's Three Descriptions of Place and Movement. 1.0 Through the Night</p> <p>Radio 4 6.0am News and Papers 6.07 Ramblings. A walk in Dovedale with Caravan. (R) 6.30 Farming Today This Week 6.57 Weather 7.0 Today 8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament 9.0 Saturday Live 10.30 You're Dead to Me. Greg Jenner and guests look at the life of Eleanor of Aquitaine. (2/5) 10.45 (LW) TMS: England v South Africa: -Third Test Day Three 11.0 (FM) The Week in Westminster 11.30 (FM) From Our Own Correspondent 12.0 (FM) News 12.01 (LW) Shipping Forecast 12.04 (LW) TMS 12.04 (FM) Money Box 12.30 (FM) The News Quiz (R) 12.57 (FM) Weather 1.0 (FM) News 1.10 (FM) Any Questions? (R) 2.0 (FM) Any Answers? 2.45 (FM) 39 Ways to Save the Planet. Retrofitting new technology to insulate old homes on a grand scale. (R) 3.0 (FM) The Downing Street</p>	<p>Doppelganger Political comedy by Jim Poyser, starring John Thomson. 4.0 (FM) Weekend Woman's Hour 5.0 (FM) Saturday PM 5.30 (FM) Political Thinking With Nick Robinson. An interview with a major political figure. (1/12) 5.54 Shipping Forecast 5.57 (LW) TMS 5.57 (FM) Weather 6.0 (FM) News 6.15 (FM) Loose Ends. Clive Anderson is joined by Lenny Henry, Julia Donaldson, Vince Cable and Patrick Gale. With music from Kittii and Allison Russell. 7.0 Profile 7.15 This Cultural Life (5/13) 8.0 Archive on 4: Paul Verhoeven's American Future. Ken Hollings talks to the Dutch director about the visions of America's future in his films. 9.0 GF Newman's The Corrupted (R) 9.45 King Albert's Book (R) 10.0 News 10.15 The People vs J Edgar Hoover Omnibus 2 (R) 11.0 Brain of Britain (R) 11.30 Natalie Haynes Stands Up for the Classics. On Homer's The Odyssey. (R) 12.0 News 12.15 Living With the Gods. Communities who believe they are not the sole inhabitants of a landscape. (R) 12.30 New Frequencies (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast</p>	<p>1.0 As World Service 5.20 Shipping Forecast 5.30 News 5.43 Bells on Sunday 5.45 Profile (R)</p> <p>Radio 4 Extra 6.0am Michael Arditti: The Family Hotel 7.30 Great Lives (7/9) 8.0 Booked (5/6) 8.30 The Break (2/6) 9.0 Dr Hannah Fry: Codebreaker 12.0 The Goon Show (19/27) 12.30 Hazelbeach (1/6) 1.0 Singing Together 2.0 Tom Allen is Actually Not Very Nice 2.30 The Wilson Dixon Line (3/4) 3.0 Rubbish (1/6) 3.30 I've Never Seen Star Wars (5/6) 4.0 Michael Arditti: The Family Hotel 5.30 Great Lives (7/9) 6.0 Doctor Who (4/6) 7.0 Dr Hannah Fry: Codebreaker 10.0 Comedy Club: Alex Horne Presents the Horne Section (6/6) 10.30 Chain Reaction (4/4) 10.55 The Comedy Club Interview 11.0 Rhod Gilbert's Bulging Barrel of Laughs (1/6) 12.0 Doctor Who (4/6) 1.0 Singing Together 2.0 Tom Allen is Actually Not Very Nice 2.30 The Wilson Dixon Line (3/4) 3.0 Rubbish (1/6) 3.30 I've Never Seen Star Wars (5/6) 4.0 Michael Arditti: The Family Hotel 5.30 Great Lives (7/9)</p>
---	--	--	--	---	---	--	--	---



BBCOne	BBCTwo	ITV	Channel 4	Channel5	BBCFour
<p>6.0 Breakfast (T) 7.40 Match of the Day (T) (R) 9.0 Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg (T) 10.0 Great North Run (T) 12.10 News (T) 12.15 MOTD Live: Women's Super League (T) Chelsea v West Ham (kick-off 12.30pm). 2.35 Songs of Praise (T) 3.10 Points of View (T) 3.25 Lifeline (T) 3.35 Escape to the Country (T) (R) 4.35 Attenborough's Wonder of Song (T) (R) 5.35 News (T) 5.50 Regional News and Weather (T) 6.0 Countryfile (T) 7.0 Antiques Roadshow (T)</p>	<p>6.05 Gardeners' World (T) (R) 7.05 Countryfile (T) (R) 8.0 Beechgrove (T) (R) 8.30 Weatherman Walking (T) (R) 9.0 Coast Great Guides: East Anglia (T) (R) 10.0 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (T) 11.30 Nadiya's Everyday Baking (T) (R) 12.0 Nigel Slater's Simple Suppers (T) (R) 12.10 Great North Run (T) 2.0 Super League Playoff Highlights (T) 3.0 The Hotel People (T) (R) 4.0 Saving Lives at Sea (T) (R) 5.0 Great North Run Highlights (T) 6.0 Golf: PGA Championship (T) 7.0 Cricket: Today at the Test (T)</p>	<p>6.0 CITV 8.25 News (T) 8.30 Katie Piper's Breakfast Show (T) 9.25 Love Your Weekend With Alan Titchmarsh (T) 11.20 English Football League Highlights (T) (R) 1.20 News and Weather (T) 1.30 Racing Live: Irish Champion's Weekend - The Curragh (T) 4.30 Ninja Warrior UK: Race for Glory (T) (R) 5.30 Tipping Point: Best Ever Finals (T) (R) 6.0 News and Weather (T) 6.20 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 Celebrity Lingo (T) 7.30 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make (T)</p>	<p>6.0 The King of Queens (T) (R) 7.15 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 8.30 The Simpsons (T) (R) 9.30 Sunday Brunch (T) 12.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders (T) (R) 1.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 3.05 FILM Transformers: The Last Knight (Michael Bay, 2017) (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Formula 1 Italian Grand Prix Highlights (T)</p>	<p>6.0 Milkshake! 10.0 The Smurfs (T) (R) 10.15 SpongeBob SquarePants (T) (R) 10.25 Entertainment News (T) 10.30 NFL End Zone (T) 11.0 Friends (T) (R) 12.35 FILM The Poseidon Adventure (Ronald Neame, 1972) (T) 3.10 FILM Close Encounters of the Third Kind (Steven Spielberg, 1977) (T) 5.55 News (T) 6.0 Happy Campers: The Caravan Park (T) (R) 7.0 Billionaire Resorts: On Holiday With the Super Rich (T)</p>	
<p>8.0 Frozen Planet II (T) New series. David Attenborough explores frozen regions around the world, beginning in Antarctica.</p> <p>9.0 The Capture (T) Rachel thinks someone has got to Isaac when he backs out of their shared plan. As she closes in on the truth, it takes her into greater danger than ever.</p>	<p>8.0 Stolen: Catching the Art Thieves (T) New series. Documentary about Europe's most daring art heists.</p> <p>9.0 Simon Reeve's South America (T) New series. The adventurer sets off on a journey through the continent, beginning in Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.</p>	<p>8.0 Ridley (T) After a chance encounter with jazz singer Eve Marbury, the former detective agrees to help find her brother who has been missing for 40 years. When a woman is found dead, dark secrets that have been buried for decades begin to emerge. Crime drama, starring Adrian Dunbar.</p>	<p>9.0 Celebrity SAS: Who Dares Wins (T) The celebrity recruits face a series of trust exercises, including jumping from a helicopter in pairs before working together to get to shore. However, when some of the group lose equipment and fail to keep their kit dry, all the recruits are punished for the mistake.</p>	<p>8.0 Million Pound Motorhomes (T) Bath coachbuilder Tom shows how he is using a Land Rover to create a one-of-a-kind motorhome.</p> <p>9.0 Rich House, Poor House (T) Racehorse breeder Nick Bradley swaps lives for a week with Scunthorpe single mum Sue Bowers, who works four jobs to keep afloat.</p>	<p>8.0 Proms 2022: Unmissable Moments (T) Includes a performance of the Ukrainian anthem by the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra.</p> <p>9.40 The Great Mountain Sheep Gather (T) (R) Documentary on a shepherd's journey from summit to valley as he leads his sheep off Scafell Pike in the Lake District.</p>
<p>10.0 News (T)</p> <p>10.25 Regional News (T) Weather</p> <p>10.30 Match of the Day 2 (T) Arsenal v Everton, West Ham v Newcastle and Crystal Palace v Man United.</p> <p>11.35 The Women's Football Show (T) Chelsea v West Ham and Man City v Arsenal.</p> <p>12.10 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 12.15 News (T)</p>	<p>10.0 How to With John Wilson (T) John explores memory.</p> <p>10.25 Stewart Lee: Tornado (T) Standup performance.</p> <p>11.25 FILM Out of Blue (Carol Morley, 2018) (T) Mystery, starring Patricia Clarkson.</p> <p>1.10 Sign Zone The Hotel People (T) (R) 2.10 Days That Shook the BBC With David Dimbleby (R) 3.10 This Is BBC Two (T)</p>	<p>10.0 News (T) Weather</p> <p>10.15 Bradley & Barney Walsh: Breaking Dad (T) (R)</p> <p>10.40 Premiership Rugby Union Highlights (T)</p> <p>11.40 Against the Odds (T) (R) Cesc Fàbregas interview.</p> <p>12.40 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Motorsport UK (T) (R) 3.50 Unwind With ITV (T) 5.05 Save Money: Lose Weight (R)</p>	<p>10.0 Gogglebox (T) (R)</p> <p>11.0 FILM The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (Peter Jackson, 2012) (T) Fantasy adventure, starring Martin Freeman and Ian McKellen.</p> <p>2.05 Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 2.50 Couples Come Dine With Me (T) (R) 3.45 Hollyoaks Omnibus (T) (R) 5.45 Drawers Off (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.05 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) (R)</p> <p>10.55 80s Greatest Pop Videos: 1982 (T) (R)</p> <p>1.0 The Live Casino Show (T) (T) 3.05 Britain's Favourite Cereal (T) (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R) 5.50 Fireman Sam (T) (R)</p>	<p>11.20 Secrets of the Museum (T) (R) Documentary going behind closed doors at the world-famous Victoria and Albert Museum in London, getting a glimpse at some of the two million items not on public display.</p> <p>12.20 The Normans (T) (R) 1.20 The Last Battle of the Vikings (T) (R) 2.20 Being Beethoven (R)</p>

Other channels

BBC Three
7.0pm EastEnders **8.0** Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die **9.0** RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under **9.55** Corey Baker's Dance Race **10.0** **FILM** Avicii: True Stories (2017) **11.35** **This Is Amapiano** **12.05** RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under **1.0** Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die **1.30** Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die **2.0** Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond **2.30** Dubai Hustle **3.0** The Rap Game UK

Dave
6.0am Teleshopping **7.10** Driving Wars **8.0** Rick Stein's India **9.0** World's Most Dangerous Roads **10.0** World's Most Dangerous Roads **11.0** Red Bull Soapbox Race 2015: London **1.0** Extreme Heights Repair Team **2.0** Top Gear **4.0** Room **10.1** **4.40** Room **101** **5.20** Room **101** **6.0** Whose Line Is It Anyway? USA **6.30** Whose Line Is It Anyway? USA **7.0** Special Ops: Crime Squad UK **8.0** Q! XL **9.0** Have I Got 2021 News for You **10.0** Late Night Mash **11.0** Live at the Apollo **12.0** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **1.0** Q! XL **2.0** Have I Got 2021 News for You **3.0** Live at the Apollo: Christmas Special **4.0** Teleshopping

E4
6.0am Hollyoaks Omnibus **8.20** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **9.25** Married at First Sight UK **2.0** The Big Bang Theory **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **2.55** The Big Bang Theory **3.25** The Big Bang Theory **3.55** The Big Bang Theory **4.25** The Big Bang Theory **4.55** Lego Masters Australia **6.15** Wipeout USA **7.15** **FILM** Bride Wars (2009) **9.0** Married at First Sight UK: Unveiled **10.0** Rick and Morty **10.35** Harley Quinn **11.05** The Inbetweeners **11.40** The Inbetweeners **12.10** Derry Girls **12.45** Derry Girls **1.15** Gogglebox **2.15** Naked Attraction **3.05** The Inbetweeners **4.0** Rick and Morty **4.25** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **5.15** The Big Bang Theory

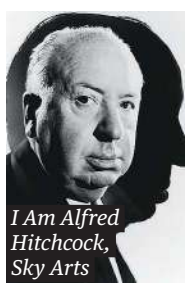
Film4
11.0am **FILM** Carry on Constable (1960) Comedy, starring Sid James. **12.45** **FILM** Bee Movie (2007) Animated comedy, with the voice of Jerry Seinfeld. **2.35** **FILM** The Adventures of Tintin (2011) Animated adventure, with the voice of Jamie Bell. **4.45** **FILM** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (2014)

Fantasy adventure, starring Megan Fox. **6.50** **FILM** The Eagle (2011) Action adventure, starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell. **9.0** **FILM** Alita: Battle Angel (2019) Sci-fi adventure, starring Rosa Salazar. **11.25** **FILM** Little Fockers (2010) Comedy sequel, starring Ben Stiller and Robert De Niro. **1.20** **FILM** I Origins (2014) Drama, starring Michael Pitt and Brit Marling.

ITV2
6.0am Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.35** Love Bites **7.35** Love Bites **8.30** Dress to Impress **9.30** Dress to Impress **10.25** Dress to Impress **11.25** Take Me Out **12.55** The Masked Dancer **2.25** **FILM** Rio 2 (2014) **4.30** **FILM** Smurfs: The Lost Village (2017) **6.15** **FILM** Wonder Woman (2017) **9.0** Family Guy **9.30** Family Guy **10.0** Family Guy **10.30** Family Guy **11.0** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **11.55** American Dad! **12.25** Iain Stirling's CelebAbility **1.10** Don't Hate the Playaz **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.20** World's Funniest Videos **2.55** Unwind With ITV **3.0** Teleshopping

Sky Max
6.0am Highway Patrol **6.30** Highway Patrol **7.0** The Flash **8.0** The Flash **9.0** The Flash **10.0** The Flash **11.0** NCIS: New Orleans **12.0** NCIS: New Orleans **1.0** NCIS: New Orleans **2.0** NCIS: New Orleans **3.0** Grimm **4.0** Grimm **5.0** Grimm **6.0** Grimm **7.0** A League of Their Own **8.0** A Discovery of Witches **9.0** S.W.A.T **11.0** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.0** An Idiot Abroad **2** **12.0** SEAL Team **1.0** The Blacklist **2.0** The Force: North East **3.0** Brit Cops: War on Crime **4.0** Stop, Search, Seize **5.0** Stop, Search, Seize

Sky Arts
6.0am The Barber of Seville **8.40** Tales of the Unexpected **9.05** Tales of the Unexpected **9.35** Tales of the Unexpected



I Am Alfred
Hitchcock,
Sky Arts

10.05 Tales of the Unexpected **10.35** Tales of the Unexpected **11.05** The Art of the Garden **12.0** Sky Arts Book Club **1.0** Music Videos That Defined the 2000s **2.0** Video Killed the Radio Star **2.30** **FILM** Les Misérables: The Staged Concert (2019) **5.25** California Dreamin': The Songs of the Mamas and the Papas **6.45** Live from the Artists Den **8.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **8.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **9.0** **FILM** I Am Alfred Hitchcock (2021) **10.45** Discovering: Queen **11.45** The Directors **12.45** Classic Albums **2.0** Buddy Guy: The Blues Chase the Blues Away **4.0** Brian Johnson's A Life on the Road **5.0** The Great Songwriters

Sky Atlantic
6.0am Fish Town **7.0** Fish Town **8.0** Boardwalk Empire **1.30** The Sopranos **7.0** Munich Games **8.0** Munich Games **9.0** House of the Dragon **10.05** Landscapers **11.05** The Gilded Age **12.10** I Hate Suzie **12.55** House of the Dragon **2.0** House of the Dragon **3.10** In Treatment **3.35** In Treatment **4.05** Urban Secrets

Radio

Radio 3
7.0am Breakfast **9.0** Sunday Morning **12.0** Sunday Morning **12.0** Private Passions. Michael Berkeley is joined by psychiatrist Gwen Adshead. **1.0** Proms Chamber Music 2022. Monday's recital from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, as Trio Gaspard perform piano trios by Haydn and Smyth. (R) **2.0** The Early Music Show. The life and career of 18th-century singer Caffarelli. (R) **3.0** Choral Evensong (R) **4.0** Jazz Record Requests **5.0** The Listening Service. The connections between music and magic. **5.30** Words and Music (R) **6.45** Sunday Feature: Should Feminists Read Baudelaire? Michèle Roberts assesses the reputation of the French poet. (R) **7.30** Drama on 3: Folk. Nell Leyshon's play inspired by Cecil Sharp's efforts to gather as many folk songs as he could before they were lost in the industrialised and literate music world of the 1900s. (R) **9.0** Record Review Extra **11.0** The Voice of the Vibraphone. The instrument's relationship to the drum. (2/3) **12.0** Classical Fix. A bespoke playlist for Sigrid. (R) **12.30** Through the Night

Radio 4
6.0am News **6.05** Something Understood (R) **6.35** On Your Farm **7.0** News **7.0** Sunday Papers **7.10** Sunday **7.54** Radio 4 Appeal: SCI Foundation **8.0** News **8.0** Sunday Papers **8.10** Sunday Worship **8.48** A Point of View (R) **8.58** Tweet of the Day (R) **9.0** Broadcasting House **10.0** The Archers **10.45** (LW) TMS: England v South Africa - Third Test Day Four **11.15** (FM) The Reunion. Kirsty Wark reunites people connected with Ukraine's Maidan Uprising of 2013. (5/5) **12.0** (FM) News **12.01** (LW) Shipping Forecast **12.04** (LW) TMS **12.04** (FM) Mark Steel's in Town. From the Isles of Scilly. (R) **12.32** (FM) The Food Programme. The Hairy Bikers discuss their culinary journey. **12.57** (FM) Weather **1.0** (FM) The World This Weekend **1.30** (FM) The Coming Storm (R) **2.0** (FM) Gardeners' Question Time (R) **2.45** (FM) The Bear Next Door (R) **3.0** (FM) North and South. Margaret is caught between the workers and the mill owner. (2/3) **4.0** (FM) Open Book. Ian McEwan discusses his new book, Lessons. **4.30** (FM) Contains Strong

Language Live from Birmingham. Luke Wright explores Birmingham with four poets who have been inspired by the city. **5.0** (FM) File on 4 (R) **5.40** (FM) Profile (R) **5.54** Shipping Forecast **5.57** (LW) TMS **6.0** (FM) News **6.15** (FM) Pick of the Week **7.0** The Archers **7.15** Ed Reardon's Week (R) **7.45** Hulda's Cafe. Volcano, by Tiffany Murray, read by Rachael Stirling. (4/5) **8.0** More Or Less (R) **8.30** Last Word (R) **9.0** Money Box (R) **9.25** Radio 4 Appeal (R) **9.30** Princess (R) **10.0** The Westminster Hour **11.0** Loose Ends (R) **11.30** Something Understood (R) **12.0** News **12.15** Thinking Allowed (R) **12.45** Bells on Sunday (R) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.0** As World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet of the Day (R)

Radio 4 Extra
6.0am The History of Brazil Is Round **7.10** Inheritance Tracks **7.20** Betsy and Napoleon Omnibus **8.30** The Enchanting World of Hinge and Bracket (3/13) **9.0** Take It from Here **9.30** Trevor's World of

Sport (2/6) **10.0** Desert Island Discs **10.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **11.0** Radiolab (5/8) **12.0** Poetry Extra **12.30** Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (5/6) **1.0** Adrian Mole: The Wilderness Years Omnibus Part Two **2.10** Inheritance Tracks **2.20** The Frederica Quartet Omnibus (6/6) **3.30** The Parrot Sketch **4.0** September Tide **5.0** Poetry Extra **5.30** Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (5/6) **6.0** The Door in the Wall **6.45** The Mermaid and the Rat Catcher **7.0** Radiolab (5/8) **8.0** September Tide **9.0** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.0** Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (5/6) **10.30** Can't Tell Nathan Caton Nothing (6/6) **10.45** Mastering the Universe (6/6) **11.0** The Masterson Inheritance (3/6) **11.30** At Home With the Snails (2/4) **12.0** The Door in the Wall **12.45** The Mermaid and the Rat Catcher **1.0** Adrian Mole: The Wilderness Years **2.10** Inheritance Tracks **2.20** The Frederica Quartet (6/6) **3.30** The Parrot Sketch **4.0** September Tide **5.0** Poetry Extra **5.30** Thanks a Lot, Milton Jones! (5/6)

The Capture,
BBC One



BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5	BBC Four
<p>6.0 Breakfast (T) 9.15 Morning Live (T) 10.0 Dom Does America (T) (R) 10.45 Claimed and Shamed (T) (R) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (T) (R) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (T) 1.0 News (T) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 1.45 Doctors (T) 2.15 Money for Nothing (T) 3.0 Escape to the Country (T) 3.45 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (T) 5.15 Pointless (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 7.0 The One Show (T) 7.30 EastEnders (T)</p> <p>8.0 Panorama (T) Jane Corbin investigates the smugglers who get people into Britain.</p> <p>8.30 We Are England (T) Workers at the two Mini factories.</p> <p>9.0 The Capture (T) Carey is kidnapped and interrogated by a surprising face. She has a chance to expose the truth but a moral obstacle stops her. Last in the series.</p> <p>10.10 News (T) 10.40 Regional News (T) Weather 10.50 Have I Got a Bit More News for You (T) Charlie Brooker is the guest host of this extended episode. 11.35 Ellie & Natasia (T) (R) 11.50 Ellie & Natasia (T) (R) 12.05 The Hit List (T) (R) 12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 12.55 News (T)</p>	<p>6.30 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 7.15 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 8.0 Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow (T) (R) 9.0 News (T) 12.15 Politics Live (T) 1.0 Chase the Case (T) (R) 1.45 Eggheads (T) (R) 2.15 Glorious Gardens from Above (T) (R) 3.0 Flipping Profit (T) (R) 3.45 Wanted: A Simple Life (T) (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) 5.15 Flog It! (T) (R) 6.0 Richard Osman's House of Games (T) 6.30 Unbeatable (T) 7.0 Cricket: Today at the Test (T)</p> <p>8.0 Only Connect (T) Victoria Coren Mitchell hosts.</p> <p>8.30 University Challenge (T) London School of Economics takes on University College, Oxford in the quiz.</p> <p>9.0 The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros (T) A look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election.</p> <p>10.0 Frankie Boyle's Tour of Scotland (T) (R) The comedian travels from Oban to Glasgow.</p> <p>10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather</p> <p>11.15 FILM The Aftermath (James Kent, 2019) (T) Drama, starring Keira Knightley.</p> <p>12.55 Sign Zone Countryfile (T) (R) 1.55 Celebrity MasterChef (T) (R) 2.55 This Is BBC Two (T)</p>	<p>6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) 9.0 Lorraine (T) 10.0 This Morning (T) 12.30 Loose Women (T) 1.30 News and Weather (T) 1.55 Local News and Weather (T) 2.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) 3.0 Tenable (T) 4.0 Tipping Point (T) 5.0 The Chase (T) 6.0 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 News and Weather (T) 7.30 Emmerdale (T)</p> <p>8.0 Coronation Street (T) Leanne walks in to hear Toyah confessing to Spider that she lied to the police.</p> <p>9.0 The Suspect (T) Joe believes there is a pattern to be found among all the coincidences, and a breakthrough sets him on a new path of investigation, while Ruiz and Devi hit a roadblock.</p> <p>10.0 News (T) Weather 10.30 Local News (T) Weather 10.45 Police, Camera, Murder (T) (R) The critical role of digital forensics in modern murder investigations. 11.45 All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite 1.25 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) (R) 3.50 Unwind With ITV (T) 5.05 Tenable (T) (R)</p>	<p>6.10 Countdown (T) (R) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (T) (R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 9.0 Frasier (T) (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 11.25 News (T) 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (T) (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (T) 2.10 Countdown (T) 3.0 A Place in the Sun (T) (R) 4.0 Chateau DIY (T) 5.0 Moneybags (T) 6.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (R) 7.0 News (T)</p> <p>8.0 Food Unwrapped (T) Amanda Byram explores how peas could solve the plastic pollution problem.</p> <p>8.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders (T) The cook makes a gnocchi supper and spicy meatballs.</p> <p>9.0 24 Hours in A&E (T) A patient with a rare condition is rushed in to St George's struggling to breathe.</p> <p>10.0 Second Hand for 50 Grand (T) Documentary series.</p> <p>11.05 Naked Attraction (T) (R) 12.10 First Dates Hotel (T) (R) 1.05 999: On the Front Line - Heart Attacks (T) (R) 1.55 FILM Manusangada (2017) 3.35 Grand Designs (T) (R) 4.25 New Life in the Country (T) (R) 5.20 The Great Home Transformation (T) (R)</p>	<p>6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) 12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) 1.40 News (T) 1.45 Home and Away (T) (R) 2.15 FILM Best Friend's Betrayal (Danny J Boyle, 2019) (T) 4.0 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 6.0 Cash in the Attic (T) 6.55 News (T) 7.0 Police Interceptors (T) (R) 7.55 News (T)</p> <p>8.0 Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders (T) PC Andy Doran makes his way to the scene of a collision where a tired young driver has fallen asleep at the wheel.</p> <p>9.0 Can't Eat, Can't Heat - Who's Going to Sort It, and How? (T) Jeremy Vine chairs a discussion on the cost of living crisis.</p> <p>10.0 Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts (T) (R) 11.05 999: Critical Condition (T) (R) The work of a Stoke A&E. 12.05 Police Interceptors (T) (R) 1.0 Live NFL (T) Seattle Seahawks v Denver Broncos. 4.40 Wildlife SOS (T) (R) 5.05 Wildlife SOS (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R)</p>	<p>7.0 Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection (T) (R) Andrew Graham-Dixon charts the history of the collection of art and decorative objects.</p> <p>8.0 Art of Persia (T) (R) Samira Ahmed travels through Iran to tell the story of its complex and fascinating people, culture and history.</p> <p>9.0 Horizon: Mars - A Traveller's Guide (T) (R) Experts discuss where they would go on Mars and what they would need to do to survive on the red planet.</p> <p>10.0 The Sky at Night (T) Dr Jen Gupta talks about her favourite pictures of space.</p> <p>10.30 8 Days: To the Moon and Back (T) (R) Dramatised documentary about the Apollo 11 mission.</p> <p>12.0 A Very British History (T) (R) 1.0 The Normans (T) (R) 2.0 Art, Passion & Power (T) (R) 3.0 Art of Persia (T) (R)</p>

Other channels

<p>BBC Three 7.0pm Top Gear 8.0 Dubai Hustle 8.30 Nail Bar Boys 9.0 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next 10.0 Ladhood 10.25 Laugh Lessons 10.30 World Championship Boxing: Marshall v Shields 11.0 Cuckoo 11.50 Dubai Hustle 12.20 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next 1.20 Ladhood 1.45 Cuckoo 2.35 The Rap Game UK 3.35 My Mate's a Bad Date</p> <p>Dave 6.0am Teleshopping 7.10 Yianni: Supercar Customiser 8.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 9.0 Storage Hunters UK 10.0 Sin City Motors 11.0 Expedition 12.0 Bangers and Cash 1.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 2.0 Top Gear 3.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 4.0 Top Gear 5.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 6.0 Taskmaster 7.0 House of Games 7.40 Room 101 8.20 Would I Lie to You? 9.0 Qi XL 10.0 Question Time 11.0 Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You 12.0 Mock the Week 12.40 Qi 1.15 Qi XL 2.25 Room 101 2.55 Would I Lie to You? 3.25 Mock the Week 4.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>E4 6.0am Hollyoaks 7.0 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 8.0 Black-ish 9.0 How I Met Your Mother 10.0 The Big Bang Theory 10.30 The Big Bang Theory 11.0 Young Sheldon 12.0 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 12.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 1.0 The Big Bang Theory 3.0 Young Sheldon 4.0 Teen First Dates 5.0 The Big Bang Theory 7.0 Hollyoaks 7.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.0 Below Deck: Mediterranean 9.0 Married at First Sight UK 10.0 Celeb Cooking School 11.05 Gogglebox 12.10 Married at First Sight UK 1.15 Celeb Cooking School 2.15 First Dates Hotel 3.10 Below Deck: Mediterranean 4.0 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.45 Baby Daddy</p> <p>Film4 11.0am FILM Vertigo (1958) Alfred Hitchcock thriller, starring James Stewart. 1.40 FILM The Weaker Sex (1948) Second world war drama, starring Ursula Jeans. 3.20 FILM The War Lover (1962) Second world war drama, starring Steve McQueen. 5.30 FILM Carry on Cabby (1963) Comedy, starring Sid James and</p>	<p>Hattie Jacques. 7.20 FILM Table 19 (2017) Comedy, starring Anna Kendrick. 9.0 FILM A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (2019) Fact-based drama, starring Tom Hanks. 11.10 FILM Logan (2017) Fantasy adventure, starring Hugh Jackman. 1.50 FILM Blindspotting (2018) Crime drama, starring Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal.</p> <p>ITV2 6.0am World's Funniest Videos 6.25 World's Funniest Videos 7.0 Love Bites 8.0 Dress to Impress 9.0 Veronica Mars 10.0 One Tree Hill 11.0 Hart of Dixie 12.0 Supermarket Sweep 1.0 Family Fortunes 2.0 The Masked Singer US 3.05 Veronica Mars 4.0 One Tree Hill 5.0 Hart of Dixie 6.0 Celebrity Catchphrase 7.0 Secret Crush 8.0 Bob's Burgers 8.30 Bob's Burgers 9.0 Family Guy 9.30 American Dad! 10.0 Family Guy 10.30 Family Guy 11.0 Family Guy 11.30 American Dad! 12.0 Bob's Burgers 12.55 All American 1.55 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.20 World's Funniest Videos 2.45 Unwind With ITV 3.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>Sky Max 6.0am Stargate SG-1 8.0 The Flash 9.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 10.0 Supergirl 11.0 NCIS: New Orleans 1.0 Hawaii Five-0 2.0 MacGyver 3.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 4.0 The Flash 5.0 Supergirl 6.0 Stargate SG-1 8.0 Resident Alien 9.0 Cobra: Cyberwar 10.0 Brassic 11.0 A League of Their Own 12.05 Freddie Fries Again 1.10 The Russell Howard Hour 2.0 NCIS: New Orleans 3.0 Hawaii Five-0 4.0 MacGyver 5.0 Highway Patrol</p> <p>Sky Arts 6.0am John Williams By Anne-Sophie Mutter: Across the Stars 7.25 The Royal Ballet in Cuba 9.0 Tales of the Unexpected 10.0 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 10.30 Alfred</p>	<p>Hitchcock Presents 11.0 Discovering: Walter Matthau 12.0 Mystery of the Lost Paintings 1.0 Tales of the Unexpected 2.0 The Eighties 3.0 Portrait Artist of the Year 2014 4.0 Discovering: Shirley MacLaine 5.0 Tales of the Unexpected 5.30 Tales of the Unexpected 6.0 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 6.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 7.0 Inside Art: The Rules of Art? 7.30 FILM André Rieu: Together Again (2021) 10.05 Mystery of the Lost Paintings 11.05 Comedy Legends 12.05 The Art of the Garden 1.05 512 Hours With Marina Abramović 3.0 Neil Gaiman's Likely Stories 4.0 Master of Photography 5.0 Cheltenham Literature Festival</p> <p>Sky Atlantic 6.0am Urban Secrets 7.45 Boardwalk Empire 10.0 The Sopranos 12.15 Six Feet Under 2.25 Game of Thrones 3.30 Boardwalk Empire 5.45 The Sopranos 7.55 Game of Thrones 9.0 House of the Dragon 10.10 Gangs of London 11.15 House of the Dragon 12.20 The Nevers 1.25 Irma Vep 2.30 In Treatment 4.0 Urban Secrets</p>	<p>Radio 3 6.30am Breakfast 9.0 Essential Classics 12.0 Composer of the Week: Bruckner (1/5) 1.0 Lunchtime Concert. Live from Wigmore Hall, tenor Christoph Prégardien and pianist Michael Gees perform songs by Schubert, Brahms and Mahler. 2.0 Afternoon Concert. Music from summer festivals around Europe, including the BBC SO on tour at the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern festival performing Elgar and Dvořák. 4.30 New Generation Artists. Pianist Elisabeth Brauss plays Brahms. 5.0 In Tune 7.0 In Tune Mixtape 7.30 In Concert. Dima Slobodeniouk conducts the SWR Symphony Orchestra, Stuttgart, and pianist Vadym Kholodenko in Rachmaninov's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Op 43, and Prokofiev's Cinderella, Op 87. 9.30 Northern Drift With poet Shirley May and folk duo Bryony and Alice. 10.0 Music Matters (R) 10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. The history, layers and nuances of British sign language. (R) 11.0 Night Tracks 12.30 Through the Night</p>	<p>Radio 4 6.0am Today 9.0 Start the Week. Tom Sutcliffe is at the Contains Strong Language festival. 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 9.45 (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man. By Edward Enninful. (1/5) 10.0 Woman's Hour 10.45 (LW) TMS: England v South Africa - Third Test Day Five 11.0 (FM) Room 5. The story of a man at a theme park who noticed something unusual about his body. 12.48 Shipping Forecast (R) 11.30 (FM) The Frost Tapes. Interviews with Michael Caine. (7/8) 12.0 (FM) News 12.01 (LW) Shipping Forecast 12.04 (LW) TMS 12.04 (FM) You and Yours 12.57 (FM) Weather 1.0 (FM) The World at One 1.45 (FM) The Boy in the Woods (1/10) 2.0 (FM) The Archers (R) 2.15 (FM) This Cultural Life (R) 3.0 (FM) Brain of Britain (7/17) 3.30 (FM) The Food Programme (R) 4.0 (FM) My Space (R) 4.30 (FM) Beyond Belief (5/8) 5.0 (FM) PM 5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast 5.57 (FM) Weather 6.0 (LW) TMS 6.0 (FM) News 6.30 (FM) Mark Steel's in Town. A gig in Salisbury. (4/6) 7.0 The Archers 7.15 Front Row 8.0 Ugandan Asians: The Reckoning 8.30 Crossing</p>	<p>Continents (R) 9.0 The Spark. Helen Lewis meets law professor Danielle Citron, author of The Fight for Privacy. (R) 9.30 Start the Week (R) 10.0 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid. By Nita Prose. (6/10) 11.0 In Suburbia. Ian Hislop challenges myths about suburbia. (R) 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.0 News 12.30 Book of the Week: A Visible Man (1/5) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.0 As World Service 5.20 Shipping Forecast 5.30 News 5.43 Prayer for the Day 5.45 Farming Today 5.58 Tweet of the Day (R)</p> <p>Radio 4 Extra 6.0am Some Mother's Son (6/6) 6.30 Agatha Raisin (1/6) 7.0 Hazelbeach (2/6) 7.30 Mark Steel's in Town (3/6) 8.0 Round the Horne (9/20) 8.30 Yes Minister (5/8) 9.0 Dilemma (5/6) 9.30 Country Matters (2/6) 10.0 The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency (1/2) 10.45 Short Works 11.0 TED Radio Hour (24/52) 11.50 Inheritance Tracks 12.0 Round the Horne (9/20) 12.30 Yes Minister (5/8) 1.0 Some Mother's Son (6/6) 1.30 Agatha Raisin (1/6) 2.0 Adventures of a Young Naturalist (1/5) 2.15 Eleanor Rising (1/5) 2.30 Fowles in Dorset 3.0 The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency (1/2) 3.45 Short Works 4.0 Dilemma (5/6) 4.30 Country Matters (2/6) 5.0 Hazelbeach (2/6) 5.30 Mark Steel's in Town (3/6)</p>
--	---	--	---	--	---	--	---

The Great British Bake Off, Channel 4



BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5	BBC Four
<p>6.0 Breakfast (T) 9.15 Morning Live (T) 10.0 Dom Does America (T) (R) 10.45 Claimed and Shamed (T) (R) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (T) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (T) (R) 1.0 News (T) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 1.45 Doctors (T) 2.15 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 3.0 Escape to the Country (T) 3.45 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (T) 5.15 Pointless (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 7.0 The One Show (T) 7.30 EastEnders (T)</p>	<p>6.20 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 7.05 Antiques Road Trip (T) (R) 7.50 Sign Zone: Nature's Weirdest Events (T) (R) 8.20 Our Lives: Rat Woman (T) (R) 8.50 Lifeline (T) (R) 9.0 News (T) 12.15 Politics Live (T) 1.0 Chase the Case (T) (R) 1.45 Eggheads (T) (R) 2.15 Glorious Gardens from Above (T) (R) 3.0 Flipping Profit (T) (R) 3.45 Wanted: A Simple Life (T) (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) 5.15 Flog It! (T) (R)</p>	<p>6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) 9.0 Lorraine (T) 10.0 This Morning (T) 12.30 Loose Women (T) 1.30 News and Weather (T) 1.55 Local News and Weather (T) 2.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) 3.0 Tenable (T) 4.0 Tipping Point (T) 5.0 The Chase (T) 6.0 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 News and Weather (T) 7.30 Emmerdale (T)</p>	<p>6.10 Countdown (T) (R) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (T) (R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 9.0 Frasier (T) (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 11.25 News (T) 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (T) (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (T) 2.10 Countdown (T) 3.0 A Place in the Sun (T) (R) 4.0 Chateau DIY (T) 5.0 Moneybags (T) 6.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (R) 7.0 News (T)</p>	<p>6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) 12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) 1.40 News (T) 1.45 Home and Away (T) 2.15 FILM Picture Perfect Mysteries: Dead Over Diamonds (Ron Oliver, 2020) (T) 4.0 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 6.0 Cash in the Attic (T) 6.55 News (T) 7.0 Dogs Behaving (Very) Badly (T) (R) 7.55 News (T)</p>	<p>7.0 Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection (T) (R) Andrew Graham-Dixon tells the story of the Royal Collection's resurrection.</p>
<p>8.0 Fake Or Fortune? (T) The origins of a 17th-century painting of Christ, displayed in a Port Glasgow church. 9.0 Celebrity MasterChef (T) The five remaining contenders begin finals week, serving up afternoon tea for 12 famous guests at Alexandra Palace, before making a dish inspired by their childhood.</p>	<p>5.30 Live Women's T20 Cricket (T) England v India. Coverage of the second match from the County Ground in Derby. 9.30 Inside the Factory XL: Diggers (T) (R) Gregg Wallace and Cherry Healey visit the JCB factory in Staffordshire, where as many as 100 diggers are made every day.</p>	<p>8.0 Vera (T) (R) DCI Vera Stanhope must unravel the mystery when well-respected local builder and family man Jim Tullman is found beaten to death on the steps of the Collingwood Monument. Crime drama, starring Brenda Blethyn.</p>	<p>8.0 The Great British Bake Off (T) New series. Noel Fielding and Matt Lucas welcome 12 new contestants into the tent, baking mini-cakes and two sponges, including one in the shape of a house they remember fondly. 9.30 First Dates Hotel (T) Twins Bethany and Shannon arrive at the Italian hotel.</p>	<p>8.0 The Yorkshire Vet (T) Peter Wright helps a pregnant cow that is expecting twins. 9.0 The Pyrenees With Michael Portillo (T) The broadcaster retraces the route through the Catalanian Pyrenees his father used to flee in 1939 as a political refugee from the Spanish civil war. Last in the series.</p>	<p>8.0 Keeping Up Appearances (T) (R) Hyacinth tries to get a part in Emmet's musical. 8.30 Ever Decreasing Circles (T) (R) Martin is horrified when Paul buys a neighbour's house to rent out. 9.0 Storyville: Gorbachev. Heaven (T) (R) A portrait of the last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev.</p>
<p>10.0 News (T) 10.30 Regional News (T) Weather 10.40 Ambulance (T) (R) Simon and Jamie help a man with a head injury. 11.40 Question of Sport (T) (R) With Mark Foster, Susannah Townsend and Bruce Mouat. 12.10 The Dark Side of Direct Sales (T) (R) 12.40 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 12.45 News</p>	<p>10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather 11.15 Martin Compston's Scottish Fling (T) (R) 11.45 FILM <i>Sus</i> (Robert Heath, 2010) (T) Drama set in the 1970s, starring Clint Dyer. 1.15 Sign Zone Celebrity MasterChef (T) (R) 2.15 Celebrity MasterChef (T) (R) 2.45 Saving Lives at Sea (T) (R) 3.45 This Is BBC Two (T)</p>	<p>10.0 News (T) Weather 10.30 Local News (T) Weather 10.45 The Thief, His Wife and the Canoe: The Real Story (T) (R) 11.40 Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport (T) (R) Demi deals with a medical emergency. 12.05 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Take the Tower (T) (R) 3.50 Unwind With ITV (T) 5.05 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.30 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (T) Rosie and rapper Lady Leshurr face a 418ft abseil. 11.35 Gogglebox (T) (R) 12.35 The Last Leg (T) (R) 1.30 The Simpsons (T) (R) 2.20 FILM The Dressmaker (2015) (T) 4.15 Perfect House, Secret Location (T) (R) 5.15 The Great Home Transformation (T) (R)</p>	<p>10.0 Getting Away With Murder: The Killing of Mary Gough (T) (R) 12.05 Angel of Death: The Crimes of Beverley Allitt (R) 1.0 The Live Casino Show 3.05 Britain's Favourite Chocolate (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (R) 5.50 Fireman Sam (R)</p>	<p>10.40 Ted Hughes: Stronger Than Death (T) (R) A look at how the poet's life shaped his work, including an interview with his daughter Frieda, as well as testimony from friends and fellow writers. 12.10 Sylvia Plath: Inside the Bell Jar (T) (R) 1.10 The Normans (T) (R) 2.10 Art, Passion & Power (T) (R)</p>

Other channels

<p>BBC Three 7.0pm Top Gear 8.0 The Fast and the Farmer-ish 9.0 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die 10.0 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next 11.0 This Country 11.50 Ladhoo 12.15 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die 1.15 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next 2.15 This Country 2.45 This Country 3.10 Cuckoo</p> <p>Dave 6.0am Teleshopping 7.10 Yianni: Supercar Customiser 7.35 Yianni: Supercar Customiser 8.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 9.0 Storage Hunters UK 9.30 Storage Hunters UK 10.0 Sin City Motors 11.0 Expedition With Steve Backshall 12.0 Bangers and Cash 1.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 2.0 Top Gear 3.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 4.0 Top Gear 5.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 6.0 Taskmaster 7.0 Richard Osman's House of Games 7.40 Room 101 8.20 Would I Lie to You? 9.0 Qi XL 10.0 Live at the Apollo 11.0 Have I Got a Bit More News for You 12.0 Mock the Week 12.40 Qi 1.15 Qi XL 2.25 Room 101 2.55 Would I Lie to You? 3.25 Mock the Week 4.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>E4 6.0am Hollyoaks 7.0 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 8.0 Black-ish 9.0 How I Met Your Mother 10.0 The Big Bang Theory 11.0 Young Sheldon 12.0 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 1.0 The Big Bang Theory 3.0 Young Sheldon 3.30 Young Sheldon 4.0 Married at First Sight UK 5.0 The Big Bang Theory 5.30 The Big Bang Theory 6.0 The Big Bang Theory 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 7.0 Hollyoaks 7.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.0 Below Deck: Mediterranean 9.0 Married at First Sight UK 10.0 Celeb Cooking School 11.05 Naked Attraction 12.10 First Dates Hotel 1.15 Married at First Sight UK 2.15 Celeb Cooking School 3.10 Below Deck: Mediterranean 4.0 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.25 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.50 Baby Daddy</p> <p>Film4 11.0am FILM Waterloo Road (1944) Second world war drama, starring John Mills. 12.35 FILM Border River (1954) Western, starring Joel McCrea. 2.20 FILM The Court-Martial of Billy Mitchell (1955) Courtroom drama,</p>	<p>starring Gary Cooper. 4.25 FILM The Long Ships (1963) Viking adventure, starring Richard Widmark and Sidney Poitier. 7.05 FILM Fantastic Four (2015) Superhero adventure, starring Miles Teller. 9.0 FILM <i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i> (1981) Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford. 11.15 FILM A Hidden Life (2019) Drama, starring August Diehl.</p> <p>ITV2 6.0am World's Funniest Videos 6.25 World's Funniest Videos 7.0 Love Bites 8.0 Secret Crush 9.0 Veronica Mars 10.0 One Tree Hill 11.0 Hart of Dixie 12.0 Supermarket Sweep 1.0 Family Fortunes 2.0 The Masked Singer US 3.05 Veronica Mars 4.0 One Tree Hill 5.0 Hart of Dixie 6.0 Catchphrase Celebrity Special 7.0 Secret Crush 8.0 Bob's Burgers 8.30 Bob's Burgers 9.0 Family Guy 9.30 Family Guy 10.0 Plebs 10.30 Plebs 11.0 Family Guy 11.30 American Dad! 11.55 American Dad! 12.25 Bob's Burgers 12.55 Bob's Burgers 1.25 All American 2.20 World's Funniest Videos 2.45 Unwind With ITV 3.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>Sky Max 6.0am Stargate SG-1 8.0 The Flash 9.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 10.0 Supergirl 11.0 NCIS: New Orleans 1.0 Hawaii Five-0 2.0 MacGyver 3.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 4.0 The Flash 5.0 Supergirl 6.0 Stargate SG-1 7.80 A League of Their Own 9.0 The Blacklist 10.0 <i>The 74th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards</i> 12.0 Brassic 1.0 Road Wars 2.0 Highway Patrol 2.45 Hawaii Five-0 3.50 MacGyver 4.55 Highway Patrol</p> <p>Sky Arts 6.0am Reinventing the Orchestra With Charles Hazlewood 6.55 Romeo and Juliet 9.0 Tales of the Unexpected 10.0 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 11.0 Discovering: Shirley</p> <p>Sky Atlantic 6.0am Fish Town 7.45 Boardwalk Empire 10.0 The Sopranos 12.15 Six Feet Under 2.25 Game of Thrones 3.30 Boardwalk Empire 5.45 The Sopranos 7.55 Game of Thrones 9.0 <i>Irma Vep</i> 10.05 House of the Dragon 11.10 Munich Games 1.10 Succession 2.20 The Affair 3.30 In Treatment 4.0 Fish Town</p>	<p>MacLaine 12.0 Vermeer from the National Gallery, London 1.0 Tales of the Unexpected 2.0 The Art of Architecture 3.0 Portrait Artist of the Year 2014 4.0 Discovering: Charles Bronson 5.0 Tales of the Unexpected 5.30 Tales of the Unexpected 6.0 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 7.0 Discovering: Elizabeth Taylor 8.0 Cézanne: Portraits of a Life 9.0 I, Claude Monet 10.0 Catherine the Great 11.10 The South Bank Show 12.45 The Directors 1.45 Les Dawson's Parisienne Adventure: Urban Myths 2.15 Joan Rivers and Barbra Streisand: Urban Myths 2.45 FILM Jerry Lewis: The Man Behind the Clown (2016) 4.0 Discovering: Elizabeth Taylor 5.0 Cheltenham Literature Festival</p>	<p>Radio 3 6.30am Breakfast 9.0 Essential Classics 12.0 Composer of the Week: Bruckner (2/5) 1.0 Lunchtime Concert. Chamber music highlights from last month's Machynlleth festival, with the Navarra Quartet and bassist Leon Bosch in Dvořák's String Quintet, Op 77. (1/4). 2.0 Afternoon Concert. Music from summer festivals around Europe, including a concert given by the Verbier Festival Orchestra featuring Bartók and Shostakovich. 5.0 In Tune 7.0 In Tune Mixtape 7.30 In Concert. Donald Runnicles conducts the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, soprano Meechot Marrero, tenor Sunnyboy Dladla, baritone Thomas Lehtman, Edinburgh Festival Chorus and National Youth Choir of Scotland Girls Choir in Respighi's Pines of Rome and Orff's Carmina Burana. 10.0 Free Thinking. John Gallagher and guests look at language during the age of exploration. 10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. With Tina Kelberman. (2/5) 11.0 Night Tracks 12.30 Through the Night</p>	<p>Radio 4 6.0am Today 8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament 9.0 The Life Scientific. Geoarchaeologist Dr Judith Bunbury reflects on the Sahara desert. (2/7) 9.30 One to One. Gillian Burke continues to explore her love of gospel music. (2/7) 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 9.45 (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man. By Edward Enninfu. (2/5) 10.0 Woman's Hour 11.0 The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry (5/6) 11.30 <i>Icon</i> A discussion about the celebrity culture that enveloped actor Elizabeth Taylor. (1/6) 12.0 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping Forecast 12.04 Call You and Yours 12.57 Weather 1.0 The World at One 1.45 The Boy in the Woods. The body is discovered. (2/10) 2.0 The Archers (R) 2.15 Love Across the Ages. Drama, by Shahid Iqbal Khan. 3.0 Short Cuts (2/5) 3.30 Costing the Earth (2/13) 4.0 The Listening Project 4.30 Great Lives. Soprano Lesley Garrett celebrates the life of George Lascelles, seventh earl of Harewood. (7/9) 5.0 PM 5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast 5.57 Weather 6.0 News 6.30 Alone. A new relationship for</p>	<p>Louisa has repercussions for everyone. (5/6) 7.0 The Archers 7.15 Front Row 8.0 File on 4. Annabel Deas reports on Concerns that British victims of trafficking are less likely than foreign nationals to receive Home Office support. (2/9) 8.40 In Touch 9.0 Can the Police Keep Us Safe? (R) 9.30 The Life Scientific (R) 9.59 Weather 10.0 The World Tonight 10.45 (FM) Book at Bedtime: The Maid (7/10) 11.0 Fortunately 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.0 News and Weather 12.30 Book of the Week: A Visible Man (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.0 As World Service 5.20 Shipping Forecast 5.30 News Briefing 5.43 Prayer for the Day 5.45 Farming Today 5.58 Tweet of the Day (R)</p> <p>Radio 4 Extra 6.0am Death May Surprise Us (1/6) 6.30 Agatha Raisin (2/6) 7.0 The Break (3/6) 7.30 Alone (4/6) 8.0 The Goon Show 8.30 King Street Junior (5/8) 9.0 The News Quiz (1) 9.30 The Older Woman (2/6) 10.0 The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency (2/2) 10.45 Short Works 11.0 Music Hall Reclaimed</p>	<p>12.0 The Goon Show 12.30 King Street Junior (5/8) 1.0 Death May Surprise Us (1/6) 1.30 Agatha Raisin (2/6) 2.0 Adventures of a Young Naturalist (2/5) 2.15 Eleanor Rising (2/5) 2.30 The Hotel Suite 3.0 The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency (2/2) 3.45 Short Works 4.0 The 3rd Degree (3/6) 4.30 The Older Woman (2/6) 5.0 The Break (3/6) 5.30 Alone (4/6)</p>
--	--	--	--	--	---	---	---	--



BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5	BBC Four
<p>6.0 Breakfast (T) 9.15 Morning Live (T) 10.0 Dom Does America (T) (R) 10.45 Claimed and Shamed (T) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (T) (R) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (T) (R) 1.0 News (T) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 1.45 Doctors (T) 2.15 Money for Nothing (T) 3.0 Escape to the Country (T) (R) 3.45 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (T) 5.15 Pointless (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 7.0 The One Show (T) 7.30 EastEnders (T)</p> <p>8.0 The Repair Shop (T) The team work on a second world war radio, a pair of vintage seamstress scissors and a battered school satchel.</p> <p>9.0 Shetland (T) The police race to identify the killer and prevent disaster striking the town. As the investigation draws to a close, Perez faces a life-changing decision.</p> <p>10.0 News (T) 10.30 Regional News (T) Weather 10.40 FILM Rush (Ron Howard, 2013) (T) Formula One drivers James Hunt and Niki Lauda develop a fierce rivalry over the 1976 championship. Fact-based drama, with Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl. 12.30 Ladhood (R) 12.55 Weather (T) 1.0 News (T)</p>	<p>6.30 Escape to the Country (T) (R) 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (T) (R) 8.0 Sign Zone: Gardeners' World (T) (R) 9.0 News (T) 11.15 Politics Live (T) 1.0 Chase the Case (T) (R) 1.45 Eggheads (T) (R) 2.15 Glorious Gardens from Above (T) (R) 3.0 Flipping Profit (T) (R) 3.45 Wanted: A Simple Life (T) (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) 5.15 Flog It! (T) (R) 6.0 Richard Osman's House of Games (T) 6.30 Unbeatable (T) 7.0 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip (T) (R)</p> <p>8.0 Mary Berry: Cook & Share (T) The cook visits Bristol where she shares shakshuka.</p> <p>8.30 Nadiya's Everyday Baking (T) Nadiya Hussain demonstrates the speediest of her bakes.</p> <p>9.0 Days That Shook the BBC With David Dimbleby (T) The broadcaster explores the BBC's relationship with its audience. Last in the series.</p> <p>10.0 QI (T) (R) With guests Ed Gamble, Lou Sanders and Sindhu Vee. 10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather 11.15 Unspun World With John Simpson (T) News review. 11.40 The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolivianos (T) (R) 12.40 Sign Zone Ambulance (T) (R) 1.40 Britain's Next Jewellery Star (R) 2.45 This Is BBC Two</p>	<p>6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) 9.0 Lorraine (T) 10.0 This Morning (T) 12.30 Loose Women (T) 1.30 News and Weather (T) 1.55 Local News and Weather (T) 2.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) 3.0 Tenable (T) 4.0 Tipping Point (T) 5.0 The Chase (T) 6.0 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 News and Weather (T) 7.30 Emmerdale (T)</p> <p>8.0 Coronation Street (T) As Toyah heads to court, Leanne begs her not to say something she'll regret and to let her solicitor handle it.</p> <p>9.0 Doc Martin (T) The surgery is chaotic, with Martin and Louisa both now practising from it. Bert's new business venture with Al does not get off to a good start.</p> <p>10.0 News (T) Weather 10.30 Local News (T) Weather 10.45 Peston (T) Political chat. 11.40 Heathrow: Britain's Busiest Airport (T) (R) 12.05 English Football League Highlights (T) (R) 1.20 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 For the Love of Britain (T) (R) 3.25 Unwind With ITV (T) 4.40 The Masked Dancer (T) (R)</p>	<p>6.10 Countdown (T) (R) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (T) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 9.0 Frasier (T) (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 11.25 News (T) 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (T) (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (T) 2.10 Countdown (T) 3.0 A Place in the Sun (T) (R) 4.0 Chateau DIY (T) 5.0 Moneybags (T) 6.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (R) 7.0 News (T)</p> <p>8.0 Changing Rooms (T) The designers help two sets of neighbours make over a bedroom and a sitting room.</p> <p>9.0 Grand Designs (T) Kevin McCloud follows the progress of Dorrán, who promised his wife and children he would build them a super-modern underground home.</p> <p>10.0 Football Dreams: The Academy (T) 11.05 The Great (T) 12.20 Inside the Superbrands: Typhoo (R) 1.15 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (R) 2.10 A Very British Job Agency (R) 3.05 Car S.O.S (R) 3.55 Amazing Spaces (R) 4.50 The Great Home Transformation (R) 5.45 Drawers Off (R)</p>	<p>6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) 12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) 1.40 News (T) 1.45 Home and Away (T) 2.15 FILM My Husband's Secret Life (Philippe Gagnon, 2018) (T) 4.0 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 6.0 Cash in the Attic (T) 6.55 News (T) 7.0 The Highland Vet (T) (R) 7.55 News (T)</p> <p>8.0 Police Interceptors (T) Documentary following the work of a high-speed police interception unit.</p> <p>9.0 Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts (T) An 83-year-old man is rushed in with suspected sepsis, while paramedics rush to help a woman who has fallen out of her vehicle.</p> <p>10.0 Ambulance: Code Red (T) (R) A critical care practitioner attends a double stabbing. 11.05 A&E After Dark (T) (R) 12.05 999: Criminals Caught on Camera (T) (R) 1.0 The Live Casino Show (T) 3.05 Britain's Favourite Cleaning Product (T) (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R)</p>	<p>7.0 Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection (T) (R) Andrew Graham-Dixon examines the age of the Romantics.</p> <p>8.0 South Pacific (T) (R) A look at efforts to preserve the marine life of the region, home to the world's richest coral reefs and species including whales and sharks.</p> <p>9.0 The Human Body: Secrets of Your Life Revealed (T) (R) Chris and Xand van Tulleken explore the way experiences shape the mind and body.</p> <p>10.0 Christopher Eccleston Remembers: Our Friends in the North (T) The actor looks back on Peter Flannery's acclaimed 1996 drama series.</p> <p>10.10 Our Friends in the North (T) (R) Drama charting 30 years in the lives of four friends from England's north-east.</p> <p>1.35 Art, Passion & Power (T) (R) 2.35 The Human Body (T) (R)</p>

Other channels

<p>BBC Three 7.0pm Top Gear 8.0 Gassed Up 8.50 Zen Motoring 9.0 FILM Divergent (2014) 11.10 Deepfake Porn: You Could Be Next 12.10 The Rap Game UK 1.10 Gassed Up 2.0 Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die 3.0 The Rap Game UK</p> <p>Dave 6.0am Teleshopping 7.10 Yianni: Supercar Customiser 7.35 Yianni: Supercar Customiser 8.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 9.0 Storage Hunters UK 9.30 Storage Hunters UK 10.0 Sin City Motors 11.0 Expedition With Steve Backshall 12.0 Bangers and Cash 1.0 Border Force: America's Gatekeepers 2.0 Top Gear 3.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 4.0 Top Gear 5.0 Rick Stein's Secret France 6.0 Taskmaster 7.0 Richard Osman's House of Games 7.40 Room 101 8.20 Would I Lie to You? 9.0 QI XL 10.0 Mock the Week 10.40 Would I Lie to You? 11.20 Would I Lie to You? 12.0 Mock the Week Christmas Special 2019 12.40 QI 1.15 QI XL 2.25 Room 101 3.0 Would I Lie to You? 3.30 Mock the Week Christmas Special 2019 4.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>E4 6.0am Hollyoaks 7.0 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA 8.0 Black-ish 9.0 How I Met Your Mother 10.0 The Big Bang Theory 11.0 Young Sheldon 12.0 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 1.0 The Big Bang Theory 3.0 Young Sheldon 3.30 Young Sheldon 4.0 Married at First Sight UK 5.0 The Big Bang Theory 5.30 The Big Bang Theory 6.0 The Big Bang Theory 6.30 The Big Bang Theory 7.0 Hollyoaks 7.30 The Big Bang Theory 8.0 Below Deck: Mediterranean 9.0 Married at First Sight UK 10.35 Send Nudes: Body SOS 11.35 Gogglebox 12.40 First Dates Hotel 1.45 Married at First Sight UK 3.10 Send Nudes: Body SOS 4.05 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 4.55 Baby Daddy</p> <p>Film4 11.0am FILM Blanche Fury (1948) Drama, starring Valerie Hobson. 12.55 FILM Freedom Radio (1940) Second world war drama, starring Clive Brook. 2.50 FILM Distant Drums (1951) Western, starring Gary Cooper. 4.55 FILM At Gunpoint (1955) Western, starring</p>	<p>Fred MacMurray. 6.35 FILM Sahara (2005) Adventure, starring Matthew McConaughey. 9.0 FILM Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984) Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford. 11.20 FILM Sicario (2015) Crime drama, starring Emily Blunt. 1.40 FILM Searching (2018) Thriller, starring John Cho.</p> <p>ITV2 6.0am World's Funniest Videos 6.25 World's Funniest Videos 7.0 Love Bites 8.0 Secret Crush 9.0 Veronica Mars 10.0 One Tree Hill 11.0 Hart of Dixie 12.0 Supermarket Sweep 1.0 Family Fortunes 2.0 The Masked Singer US 3.05 Veronica Mars 4.0 One Tree Hill 5.0 Hart of Dixie 6.0 Celebrity Catchphrase 7.0 Secret Crush 8.0 Bob's Burgers 8.30 Bob's Burgers 9.0 Gordon, Gino and Fred: American Road Trip 10.0 Family Guy 10.30 Family Guy 11.0 Family Guy 11.30 American Dad! 11.55 American Dad! 12.25 Bob's Burgers 12.55 Bob's Burgers 1.25 Shopping With Keith Lemon 1.55 Iain Stirling's CelebAbility 2.40 Unwind With ITV 3.0 Teleshopping</p>	<p>Sky Max 6.0am Stargate SG-1 8.0 The Flash 9.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 10.0 Supergirl 11.0 NCIS: New Orleans 1.0 Hawaii Five-0 2.0 MacGyver 3.0 DC's Legends of Tomorrow 4.0 The Flash 5.0 Supergirl 6.0 Stargate SG-1 7.0 Stargate SG-1 8.0 SEAL Team 9.0 Never Mind the Buzzcocks 9.45 Brassic 10.45 The Russell Howard Hour 11.30 Resident Alien 12.30 NCIS: Los Angeles 1.30 Road Wars 2.0 Stop, Search, Seize 3.0 Hawaii Five-0 4.0 MacGyver 5.0 Highway Patrol 5.30 Highway Patrol</p> <p>Sky Arts 6.0am Darbar Festival 2017 7.0 Sarah Brightman: Hymn 9.0 Tales of the Unexpected 10.0 Alfred</p> <p>Blitzed: The 80s Blitz Kids' Story, Sky Arts</p>	<p>Hitchcock Presents 11.0 Discovering: Charles Bronson 12.0 Munch from the Munch Museum and National Gallery, Oslo 1.0 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.0 Wonderland: From JM Barrie to JRR Tolkien 3.0 Portrait Artist of the Year 2014 4.0 Discovering: Peter O'Toole 5.0 Tales of the Unexpected 6.0 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 7.0 Landscape Artist of the Year 2017 8.0 Sky Arts Book Club 9.0 Blitzed: The 80s Blitz Kids' Story 11.0 The Seventies 12.0 Berlin Live: Simple Minds 1.20 The Movies 2.15 Clint Eastwood: A Life in Film 4.0 Mystery of the Lost Paintings 5.0 Cheltenham Literature Festival</p> <p>Sky Atlantic 6.0am Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets 7.45 Boardwalk Empire 10.0 The Sopranos 12.15 Six Feet Under 2.25 Game of Thrones 3.30 Boardwalk Empire 5.45 The Sopranos 7.55 Game of Thrones 9.0 The White Lotus 10.10 Irma Vep 11.10 Landscapers 12.10 Succession 1.20 Ray Donovan 3.30 In Treatment 4.0 Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets</p>	<p>Radio 3 6.30am Breakfast 9.0 Essential Classics 12.0 Composer of the Week: Bruckner (3/5) 1.0 Lunchtime Concert. Violinist Viktoria Mullova performs works by Schubert, Pärt and Takemitsu, and the Wihan Quartet play Janáček's Quartet No 2 at the Machynlleth festival. 2.0 Afternoon Concert. Music from summer festivals around Europe, including the Zurich Chamber Orchestra at the Gstaad Menuhin festival performing Beethoven, Mahler and Bernstein. 4.0 Choral Evensong 5.0 In Tune 7.30 In Concert. At the Edinburgh international festival, Edward Gardner conducts the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra and pianist Vikingur Ólafsson in Ravel's La Valse, Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor, Op 54, and Rachmaninov's Symphonic Dances. 10.0 Free Thinking. Ian McEwan joins researchers to discuss UK cold war fears. 10.45 The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. Deepa Shastri explores how the arts and sign language go hand in hand. (3/5) 11.0 Night Tracks 12.30 Through the Night</p>	<p>Radio 4 6.0am Today 8.31 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament 9.0 More Or Less (3/6) 9.30 One Dish. Schnitzel with Jessica Fostekeew. (3/15) 9.45 (LW) Daily Service 9.45 (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man. By Edward Enninfu. (3/5) 10.0 Woman's Hour 11.0 Ugandan Asians (R) 11.30 Princess. Rachel Fairburn on the scandalous 18th-century princess Caroline of Brunswick. (7/8) 12.0 News 12.01 (LW) Shipping Forecast 12.04 You and Yours 12.57 Weather 1.0 The World at One 1.45 The Boy in the Woods. People on the Welland estate are quick to identify their prime suspect. (3/10) 2.0 The Archers (R) 2.15 Someone Dangerous. Mystery thriller, by Andy Mulligan. (1/2) (R) 3.0 Money Box Live 3.30 Robin Ince's Reality Tunnel (R) 4.0 Thinking Obsessions (3/4) 4.30 The Media Show 5.0 PM 5.54 (LW) Shipping Forecast 5.57 Weather 6.0 News 6.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions. With Lloyd Griffith and June Sarpong. (R) 7.0 The Archers (R) 7.15 Front Row 8.0 Bringing Up Britain. Anjula Mutanda and guests discuss how</p>	<p>parents can best engage with their children about climate change issues. (1/4) 8.45 Four Thought (1/4) 9.0 Costing the Earth (R) 9.30 The Media Show (R) 9.59 Weather 10.0 The World Tonight 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid. By Nita Prose. (8/10) 11.0 The Haunting (R) 11.15 The Skewer. Jon Holmes twists current affairs clips into a surreal, satirical soundscape. (2/8) 11.30 Today in Parliament 12.0 News 12.30 Book of the Week: A Visible Man (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.0 As World Service 5.20 Shipping Forecast 5.30 News 5.43 Prayer for the Day 5.45 Farming Today 5.58 Tweet of the Day</p> <p>Radio 4 Extra 6.0am Death May Surprise Us (2/6) 6.30 Agatha Raisin (3/6) 7.0 Jake Yapp's Media Circus (3/4) 7.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions (3/4) 8.0 Hancock's Half Hour (11/14) 8.30 Flying the Flag (3/8) 9.0 Booked (6/6) 9.30 1835 (1/4) 10.0 Devonian (1/3) 10.45 Short Works 11.0 The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal (1/3) 12.0 Hancock's Half Hour (11/14) 12.30 Flying the Flag (3/8) 1.0</p>	<p>Death May Surprise Us (2/6) 1.30 Agatha Raisin (3/6) 2.0 Adventures of a Young Naturalist (3/5) 2.15 Eleanor Rising (3/5) 2.30 Shine Like Tokyo: Northern Soul Goes East! 3.0 Devonian (1/3) 3.45 Short Works 4.0 Booked (6/6) 4.30 1835 (1/4) 5.0 Jake Yapp's Media Circus (3/4) 5.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions (3/4) 6.0 The Slide (1/7) 6.30 Pioneers (3/5) 7.0 Hancock's Half Hour (11/14) 7.30 Flying the Flag (3/8) 8.0 Death May Surprise Us (2/6) 8.30 Agatha Raisin (3/6) 9.0 The National Theatre With Daniel Rosenthal (1/3) 10.0 Joe Lycett's Obsessions (3/4) 10.30 Goodness Gracious Me (1/6) 10.55 The Comedy Club Interview 11.0 What Does the K Stand for? (4/4) 11.30 Simon Evans Goes to Market (1/4) 12.0 The Slide (1/7) 12.30 Pioneers (3/5) 1.0 Death May Surprise Us (2/6) 1.30 Agatha Raisin (3/6) 2.0 Adventures of a Young Naturalist (3/5) 2.15 Eleanor Rising (3/5) 2.30 Shine Like Tokyo: Northern Soul Goes East! 3.0 Devonian (1/3) 3.45 Short Works 4.0 Booked (6/6) 4.30 1835 (1/4) 5.0 Jake Yapp's Media Circus (3/4) 5.30 Joe Lycett's Obsessions (3/4)</p>
---	--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

My Grandparents' War: Kit Harington, Channel 4



BBCOne	BBCTwo	ITV	Channel 4	Channel5	BBCFour
6.0 Breakfast (T) 9.15 Morning Live (T) 10.0 Dom Does America (T) (R) 10.45 Claimed and Shamed (T) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (T) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (T) (R) 1.0 News (T) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 1.45 Doctors (T) 2.15 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 3.0 Escape to the Country (T) 3.45 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (T) 5.15 Pointless (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 7.0 The One Show (T) 7.30 EastEnders (T)	6.30 Money for Nothing (T) (R) 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (T) (R) 8.0 Sign Zone: Fake Or Fortune? (T) (R) 9.0 News (T) 12.15 Politics Live (T) 1.0 Chase the Case (T) (R) 1.45 Eggheads (T) (R) 2.15 Glorious Gardens from Above (T) (R) 3.0 Flipping Profit (T) (R) 3.45 Wanted: A Simple Life (T) (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) 5.15 Flog It! (T) (R) 6.0 Richard Osman's House of Games (T) 6.30 Unbeatable (T) 7.0 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip (T) (R)	6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) 9.0 Lorraine (T) 10.0 This Morning (T) 12.30 Loose Women (T) 1.30 News and Weather (T) 1.55 Local News and Weather (T) 2.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) 3.0 Tenable (T) 4.0 Tipping Point (T) 5.0 The Chase (T) 6.0 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 News and Weather (T) 7.30 Emmerdale (T)	6.10 Countdown (T) (R) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (T) (R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 9.0 Frasier (T) (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 11.25 News (T) 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (T) (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (T) 2.10 Countdown (T) 3.0 A Place in the Sun (T) (R) 4.0 Chateau DIY (T) 5.0 Moneybags (T) 6.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (R) 7.0 News (T)	6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) 12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) 1.40 News (T) 1.45 Home and Away (T) 2.15 FILM My Killer Twin (Max McGuire, 2021) (T) 4.0 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 6.0 Cash in the Attic (T) 6.55 News (T) 7.0 Costco: How Do They Really Do It? (T) (R) 7.55 News (T)	7.0 Art, Passion & Power: The Story of the Royal Collection (T) (R) How royal collecting has changed since the days of Queen Victoria.
8.0 Celebrity MasterChef (T) The final four produce a fantastical theatrical showstopping dish, then the surviving three are set a Chef's Table challenge by Giorgio Locatelli. 9.0 Ambulance (T) Crewmates Paula and Phil attend a patient who is feeling suicidal. Last in the series.	8.0 Saving Lives at Sea (T) The RNLI crew at Bundoran race to the rescue of a teenage girl who has been swept out to sea by a rip-current. 9.0 All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star (T) The jewellers have to make a best-selling brooch inspired by Birmingham's rich culture and heritage.	8.0 The National Television Awards 2022 (T) Joel Dommett hosts the 27th edition of the ceremony, the only TV awards where the winners are chosen entirely by viewers. Live from the OVO Arena, Wembley, with music from Robbie Williams and Lewis Capaldi.	8.0 George Clarke's Old House, New Home (T) (R) George helps transform a Clapham terrace that needs to accommodate three generations of one family. 9.0 My Grandparents' War: Kit Harington (T) The actor digs into his grandparents' experiences during the second world war.	8.0 Save Money on Your Supermarket Shop (T) Alexis Conran investigates how supermarket clothing compares to the high street. 9.0 All Creatures Great and Small (T) New series. It is spring 1939 and big changes are happening at Skeldale. Drama, with Nicholas Ralph and Samuel West.	8.0 The Last Days of Anne Boleyn (T) (R) Hilary Mantel, Philippa Gregory and David Starkey sift through the evidence to determine why Henry VIII's second wife was executed in 1536. 9.0 FILM The Elephant Man (David Lynch, 1980) Fact-based drama, starring John Hurt and Anthony Hopkins.
10.0 News (T) 10.30 Regional News (T) Weather 10.40 Question Time (T) Fiona Bruce hosts the topical debate, with a panel of politicians and guests facing questions from the audience. 11.40 Newscast (T) A weekly roundup from Westminster. 12.10 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 12.15 News (T)	10.0 Stuck (T) Comedy written by and starring Dylan Moran. 10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather 11.15 Cricket: Women's T20 Highlights England v India. 11.45 Days That Shook the BBC With David Dimbleby (T) (R) 12.45 Stolen: Catching the Art Thieves (R) 1.45 Sign Zone: Blackpool's Dance Fever (T) (R) 3.15 This Is BBC Two (T)	10.30 News (T) Weather 11.05 Local News (T) Weather 11.20 Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? (T) (R) Jeremy Clarkson hosts the quiz. 12.15 All Elite Wrestling: Rampage (T) 1.10 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) (R) 3.50 Unwind With ITV (T) 5.05 Garraway's Good Stuff (T) (R)	10.0 Naked Attraction (T) 11.05 Embarrassing Bodies (T) (R) 12.10 First Dates Hotel (T) (R) 1.05 Finding the Cornish Dream (T) (R) 2.0 FILM Village Rockstars (Rima Das, 2017) 3.30 Couples Come Dine With Me (T) (R) 4.20 Perfect House, Secret Location (T) (R) 5.15 The Great Home Transformation (T) (R)	10.0 Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild (T) (R) Ben meets a photographer living off the land in Oregon. 11.05 Police: Night Shift 999 (T) (R) 12.05 Motorway Cops (T) (R) 1.0 The Live Casino Show (T) 3.05 Our Favourite Sweets (T) (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R)	11.0 The Sky at Night (T) (R) The team explore the world of astrophotography. 11.30 Afghanistan: The Great Game - A Personal View By Rory Stewart (T) (R) Documentary double bill exploring the conflicts in Afghanistan over centuries. 1.30 Art, Passion & Power (R) 2.30 Mars: A Traveller's Guide (R)

Other channels

BBC Three
7.0pm Top Gear **8.0** MOTDx **8.30** Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond **9.0** The Rap Game UK **10.0** People Just Do Nothing **11.30** This Is Amapiano **12.0** The Rap Game UK **1.0** MOTDx **1.30** Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond **2.0** Dubai Hustle **2.30** People Just Do Nothing

Dave
6.0am Teleshopping **7.10** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **7.35** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **8.0** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **9.0** Storage Hunters UK **9.30** Storage Hunters UK **10.0** Sin City Motors **11.0** Expedition With Steve Backshall **12.0** Bangers and Cash **1.0** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **2.0** Top Gear **3.0** Rick Stein's Secret France **4.0** Top Gear **5.0** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul **6.0** Taskmaster **7.0** Richard Osman's House of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie to You? **9.0** Q! XL **10.0** **Late Night Mash** **11.0** Question Team **12.0** Mock the Week **12.40** Q! **1.15** Q! XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie to You? **3.25** Mock the Week **4.0** Teleshopping

E4
6.0am Hollyoaks **7.0** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **8.0** Black-ish **9.0** How I Met Your Mother **10.0** The Big Bang Theory **11.0** Young Sheldon **12.0** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.0** The Big Bang Theory **3.0** Young Sheldon **4.0** Married at First Sight UK **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.0** Hollyoaks **7.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.0** Below Deck: Mediterranean **9.0** Married at First Sight UK **10.0** Dirty House Rescue: Queens of Clean **11.05** Gogglebox **12.05** Married at First Sight UK **1.15** Rick and Morty **1.50** Tuca & Bertie **2.20** Dirty House Rescue: Queens of Clean **3.10** Below Deck **4.0** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **5.10** Baby Daddy

Film4
11.0am **FILM** Red Mountain (1951) Western. **12.45** **FILM** This Happy Breed (1944) Drama. **2.55** **FILM** Dragon Wells Massacre (1957) Western. **4.40** **FILM** Mary, Queen of Scots (1971) Historical biopic. **7.15** **FILM** Johnny English Strikes Again (2018) Spy comedy. **9.0** **FILM** Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989)

Action adventure sequel. **11.35** **FILM** **Wind River** (2017) Crime drama. **1.45** **FILM** Maffie (2019) War drama, starring Kai Luke Brummer.

ITV2
6.0am World's Funniest Videos **6.25** World's Funniest Videos **7.0** Love Bites **8.0** Secret Crush **9.0** Veronica Mars **10.0** One Tree Hill **11.0** Hart of Dixie **12.0** Supermarket Sweep **1.0** Family Fortunes **2.0** The Masked Singer US **3.05** Veronica Mars **4.0** One Tree Hill **5.0** Hart of Dixie **6.0** Celebrity Catchphrase **7.0** Secret Crush **8.0** Bob's Burgers **9.0** Gordon, Gino and Fred: American Road Trip **10.0** Shopping With Keith Lemon **10.30** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** Bob's Burgers **1.30** Iain Stirling's CelebAbility **2.15** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Unwind With ITV **3.0** Teleshopping

Sky Max
6.0am Stargate SG-1 **8.0** The Flash **9.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **10.0** Supergirl **11.0** NCIS: New Orleans **1.0** Hawaii Five-0 **2.0** MacGyver **3.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **4.0** The

Flash **5.0** Supergirl **6.0** Stargate SG-1 **8.0** An Idiot Abroad **2** **9.0** A League of Their Own **10.0** Cricket's Funniest Moments **10.30** The Russell Howard Hour **11.15** Cobra: Cyberwar **12.15** S.W.A.T **1.15** Road Wars **2.10** Brit Cops: War on Crime **3.05** Hawaii Five-0 **4.0** MacGyver **5.0** Highway Patrol

Sky Arts
6.0am Beethoven: The Complete Symphonies **7.15** Michael Flatley: Lord of the Dance - Dangerous Games **9.0** Tales of the Unexpected **10.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **10.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.0** Discovering: Peter O'Toole **12.0** Cézanne: Portraits of a Life **1.0** Tales of the Unexpected **2.0** Boswell & Johnson's Scottish Road Trip **3.0**

Mary Queen of Scots, Film4



Portrait Artist of the Year 2014 **4.0** Discovering: Joan Fontaine **5.0** Tales of the Unexpected **6.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **6.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **7.0** Discovering: Robert Donat **8.0** Lenny Henry's Got the Blues **9.0** The Directors **10.0** Discovering: George Clooney **11.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **12.0** **FILM** David Gilmour: Live at Pompeii (2017) **1.20** Robert Plant & the Sensational Space Shifters: Austin City Limits **2.35** Discovering Royalty on Film **4.0** The Art of Architecture **5.0** Cheltenham Literature Festival

Sky Atlantic
6.0am Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets **7.45** Boardwalk Empire **10.0** The Sopranos **12.15** Six Feet Under **2.25** Game of Thrones **3.30** Boardwalk Empire **5.45** The Sopranos **7.55** Game of Thrones **9.0** I Hate Suzie **9.45** The Staircase **11.0** House of the Dragon **12.05** Gangs of London **1.10** Mare of Easttown **2.20** Munich Games **3.30** In Treatment **4.0** Richard E Grant's Hotel Secrets

Radio

Radio 3
6.30am Breakfast **9.0** Essential Classics **12.0** Composer of the Week: Bruckner (4/5) **1.0** Lunchtime Concert. Bass Brindley Sherratt sings Schubert lieder, tenor Mark Padmore performs Fauré's song cycle La Bonne Chanson, and the Navarra Quartet play music by Henriette Bosmans. **2.0** Afternoon Concert. Includes the Mahler Chamber Orchestra at the George Enescu international festival performing Haydn and Stravinsky. **5.0** In Tune **7.0** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. At the Usher Hall in Edinburgh, Susanna Malkki conducts the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra and pianist Andreas Haefliger in Sibelius's Tapiola, Saariaho's Vista and Dieter Ammann's The Piano Concerto (Gran Toccata). **10.0** Free Thinking. The quest for endless youth in literature, film, myth and philosophy. **10.45** The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. Robert Adam questions who the arbiters of British sign language are. (4/5) **11.0** The Night Tracks Mix **11.30** Unclassified **12.30** Through the Night

Radio 4
6.0am Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday in Parliament **9.0** In Our Time. Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss George Orwell's Nineteen Eighty-Four. **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **9.45** (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man (4/5) **10.0** Woman's Hour **11.0** Crossing Continents. Yolande Knell reports on Israel's ultra-Orthodox Jews' struggle to come to terms with child sex abuse scandals. (8/9) **11.30** Once Upon a Time **12.0** News **12.01** (LW) Shipping Forecast **12.04** You and Yours **12.30** All Consuming (4/10) **12.57** Weather **1.0** The World at One **1.45** The Boy in the Woods (4/10) **2.0** The Archers **2.15** Murmuration. Drama, by Christine Entwisle. (R) **3.0** Ramblings. A sunny hike in Hampshire. (3/6) **3.27** Radio 4 Appeal (R) **3.30** Open Book (R) **4.0** The Curious Cases of Rutherford & Fry (5/6) **4.30** Inside Science **5.0** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping Forecast **5.57** Weather **6.0** News **6.30** Michael Spicer: Before Next Door (3/4) **7.0** The Archers **7.15** Front Row **8.0** The Briefing Room (10/15) **8.30** The Digital Human (R) **9.0** Inside Science (R) **9.30** In Our Time

(R) **9.59** Weather **10.0** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Maid (9/10) **11.0** Your Place Or Mine (7/10) **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.0** News **12.30** Book of the Week: A Visible Man (R) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.0** As World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45** Farming Today **5.58** Tweet of the Day

Radio 4 Extra
6.0am Death May Surprise Us (3/6) **6.30** Agatha Raisin (4/6) **7.0** To Hull and Back (1/4) **7.30** Michael Spicer: Before Next Door (3/4) **8.0** The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (4/6) **8.30** No Commitments (2/6) **9.0** The Personality Test (6/6) **9.30** Trevor's World of Sport (3/6) **10.0** Devonia (2/3) **10.45** Short Works **11.0** Desert Island Discs **11.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **12.0** The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (4/6) **12.30** No Commitments (2/6) **1.0** Death May Surprise Us (3/6) **1.30** Agatha Raisin (4/6) **2.0** Adventures of a Young Naturalist (4/5) **2.15** Eleanor Rising (4/5) **2.30** In Search of the

Singing Postman **3.0** Devonia (2/3) **3.45** Short Works **4.0** The Personality Test (6/6) **4.30** Trevor's World of Sport (3/6) **5.0** To Hull and Back (1/4) **5.30** Michael Spicer: Before Next Door (3/4) **6.0** The Slide (2/7) **6.30** Great Lives (8/9) **7.0** The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C Potter (4/6) **7.30** No Commitments (2/6) **8.0** Death May Surprise Us (3/6) **8.30** Agatha Raisin (4/6) **9.0** Desert Island Discs **9.45** David Attenborough's Life Stories **10.0** Comedy Club: Michael Spicer - Before Next Door (3/4) **10.30** Craig Brown's Lost Diaries (4/6) **10.55** The Comedy Club Interview **11.0** The Consultants (6/6) **11.30** Weak at the Top (1/4) **12.0** The Slide (2/7) **12.30** Great Lives (8/9) **1.0** Death May Surprise Us (3/6) **1.30** Agatha Raisin (4/6) **2.0** Adventures of a Young Naturalist (4/5) **2.15** Eleanor Rising (4/5) **2.30** In Search of the Singing Postman **3.0** Devonia (2/3) **3.45** Short Works **4.0** The Personality Test (6/6) **4.30** Trevor's World of Sport (3/6) **5.0** To Hull and Back (1/4) **5.30** Michael Spicer: Before Next Door (3/4)



Braveheart,
BBC One

BBC One	BBC Two	ITV	Channel 4	Channel 5	BBC Four
6.0 Breakfast (T) 9.15 Morning Live (T) 10.0 Dom Does America (T) (R) 10.45 Claimed and Shamed (T) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (T) (R) 12.15 Bargain Hunt (T) 1.0 News (T) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 1.45 Doctors (T) 2.15 Money for Nothing (T) 3.0 Escape to the Country (T) (R) 3.45 The Bidding Room (T) (R) 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (T) 5.15 Pointless (T) 6.0 News (T) 6.30 Regional News and Weather (T) 7.0 The One Show (T) 7.30 We Are England (T)	6.30 Escape to the Country (T) (R) 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (T) (R) 8.0 Sign Zone: The Repair Shop (T) (R) 9.0 News (T) 12.15 Politics Live (T) 1.0 Chase the Case (T) (R) 1.45 Eggheads (T) (R) 2.15 FILM The Adventures of Robin Hood (Michael Curtiz, William Keighley, 1938) (T) 3.55 The Best Dishes Ever (T) (R) 4.30 Murder, Mystery and My Family (T) (R) 5.15 Flog It! (T) (R) 6.0 Richard Osman's House of Games (T) 6.30 Unbeatable (T) 7.0 Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs (T) (R) 7.30 Beechgrove (T) (R)	6.0 Good Morning Britain (T) 9.0 Lorraine (T) 10.0 This Morning (T) 12.30 Loose Women (T) 1.30 News and Weather (T) 1.55 Local News and Weather (T) 2.0 Dickinson's Real Deal (T) 3.0 Tenable (T) 4.0 Tipping Point (T) 5.0 The Chase (T) 6.0 Local News and Weather (T) 6.30 News and Weather (T) 7.30 Emmerdale (T)	6.10 Countdown (T) (R) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (T) Morning (T) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (T) (R) 9.0 Frasier (T) (R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (T) (R) 11.25 News (T) 11.30 The Great House Giveaway (T) (R) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (T) 2.10 Countdown (T) 3.0 A Place in the Sun (T) (R) 4.0 Chateau DIY (T) 5.0 Moneybags (T) 6.0 The Simpsons (T) (R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (R) 7.0 News (T)	6.0 Milkshake! 9.15 Jeremy Vine (T) 12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (T) 1.40 News (T) 1.45 Home and Away (T) 2.15 FILM Killer at the School Gates (Dave Thomas, 2022) (T) 4.0 Bargain Loving Brits By the Sea (T) (R) 5.0 News (T) 6.0 Cash in the Attic (T) 6.55 News (T) 7.0 Susan Calman's Grand Day Out in the Welsh Mountains (T) (R) 7.55 News (T)	7.0 Ultimate Cover Versions at the BBC (T) (R) Includes the Moody Blues, Soft Cell, Alexandra Burke, Mariah Carey and UB40.
8.0 Question of Sport (T) With Clinton Morrison and Bianca Walkden. 8.30 Celebrity MasterChef (T) The remaining contenders compete in the final. 9.0 Have I Got News for You (T) Jess Phillips MP hosts. 9.30 Am I Being Unreasonable? (T) New series. Comic thriller, with Daisy May Cooper.	8.0 Gardeners' World (T) Monty Don divides perennials and plants daffodils and hyacinths in containers. 9.0 Mortimer & Whitehouse: Gone Fishing (T) Bob and Paul travel to north Wales to fish the River Dee. 9.30 Martin Compton's Scottish Fling (T) The actor is given a taste of island life.	8.0 Coronation Street (T) Gary is unhappy as Sharon visits Kelly to celebrate her engagement. 9.0 Professor T (T) New series. A student is left badly burnt and in a coma after a house fire, while the detectives investigating call in Professor T. Crime drama, starring Ben Miller.	8.0 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice (T) Host Jo Brand is joined by celebrity fans Harry Hill, Melvin Odoom and Roisin Conaty to discuss the new batch of bakers. 9.0 Gogglebox (T) The armchair critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week.	8.0 The Cotswolds & Beyond With Pam Ayres (T) The poet heads to Highgrove Gardens, run by the Prince's Foundation. 9.0 Digging for Treasure: Tonight (T) Dan Walker, Michaela Strachan and Raksha Dave set up camp in the shadow of Southwark Cathedral in London.	8.0 Top of the Pops (T) (R) Featuring Dannii Minogue, Paul Weller and Take That. 8.30 Top of the Pops (T) (R) Featuring Shara Nelson, Roxette and OMD. 9.0 Carole King: In Concert (T) (R) A 1971 performance. 9.30 Carole King: Natural Woman (T) (R) Profile of the singer-songwriter.
10.0 News (T) 10.30 Regional News (T) Weather 10.40 FILM Braveheart (Mel Gibson, 1995) (T) Medieval Scottish hero William Wallace fights to drive the English from his country. Historical epic, starring Mel Gibson and Sophie Marceau. 1.25 Weather for the Week Ahead (T) 1.30 News (T)	10.0 Mock the Week (T) 10.30 Newsnight (T) Weather 11.05 MOTDx (T) (R) Football chat. 11.35 Stewart Lee: Tornado (T) (R) Standup performance. 12.35 Sign Zone Panorama (T) (R) 1.05 Days That Shook the BBC With David Dimbleby (T) (R) 2.05 Weatherman Walking (T) (R) 2.35 This Is BBC Two (T)	10.0 News (T) Weather 10.30 Local News (T) Weather 10.45 Bradley & Barney Walsh: Breaking Dad (T) (R) 11.10 The NFL Show (T) Highlights of Kansas City Chiefs v Los Angeles Chargers. 12.05 Shop: Ideal World 3.0 Dickinson's Real Deal 3.50 Unwind With ITV 5.05 Katie Piper's Breakfast Show (R)	10.0 The Last Leg (T) 11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown (T) (R) 12.10 One Night in Legoland (T) (R) 1.05 FILM Upgrade (2018) (T) Sci-fi thriller. 2.45 Come Dine With Me (T) (R) 5.05 Perfect House, Secret Location (T) (R) 5.20 Come Dine With Me (T) (R) 5.55 Find It, Fix It, Flog It (T) (R)	10.0 FILM Sudden Impact (Clint Eastwood, 1983) (T) 12.15 Police Interceptors (T) (R) 1.10 The Live Casino Show (T) 3.10 Paxman on the Queen's Children (T) (R) 4.0 Paxman on the Queen's Children (T) (R) 4.45 Amazing Cakes & Bakes (T) (R) 5.30 Peppa Pig (T) (R) 5.35 Paw Patrol (T) (R) 5.50 Fireman Sam (T) (R)	10.25 Later - With Jools Holland (T) (R) Highlights from the show. 11.25 The Spice Girls at the BBC (T) (R) A selection of performances by the group. 12.25 Top of the Pops (T) (R) 12.55 Top of the Pops (T) (R) 1.25 Carole King: Natural Woman (T) (R) 2.15 Carole King: In Concert (T) (R) 2.50 Later - With Jools Holland (T) (R)

Other channels

BBC Three
7.0pm Top Gear **8.0** Squad Dates **9.0** **FILM** Avicii: True Stories (2017) **10.35** Some Girls **12.05** Squad Goals: Dorking 'Til I Die **1.05** Sky High Club: Scotland and Beyond **1.35** Dubai Hustle **2.05** Some Girls **3.35** My Mate's a Bad Date

Dave
6.0am Teleshopping
7.10 Yianni: Supercar Customiser **7.35** Yianni: Supercar Customiser **8.0** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **9.0** Storage Hunters UK **9.30** Storage Hunters UK **10.0** Sin City Motors **11.0** Expedition With Steve Backshall **12.0** Bangers and Cash **1.0** Border Force: America's Gatekeepers **2.0** Top Gear USA Special **3.0** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul **4.0** Top Gear **5.0** Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul **6.0** Taskmaster **7.0** Richard Osman's House of Games **7.40** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie to You? **9.0** Q! XL **10.0** Q! **10.40** Would I Lie to You? **11.20** Would I Lie to You? **12.0** Mock the Week **12.40** Q! **1.15** Q! XL **2.25** Room 101 **2.55** Would I Lie to You? **3.25** Mock the Week **4.0** Teleshopping

E4
6.0am Hollyoaks **7.0** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **8.0** Black-ish **8.30** Black-ish **9.0** How I Met Your Mother **10.0** The Big Bang Theory **11.0** Young Sheldon **12.0** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **1.0** The Big Bang Theory **3.0** Young Sheldon **4.0** Married at First Sight UK **5.0** The Big Bang Theory **5.30** The Big Bang Theory **6.0** The Big Bang Theory **6.30** The Big Bang Theory **7.0** Hollyoaks **7.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.0** Below Deck: Mediterranean **9.0** **FILM** War of the Worlds (2005) **11.15** Naked Attraction **1.25** First Dates Hotel **2.30** Below Deck **3.20** Below Deck **4.10** Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA **5.0** Brooklyn Nine-Nine

Film4
11.0am **FILM** The Court-Martial of Billy Mitchell (1955) Courtroom drama, starring Gary Cooper.
1.05 **FILM** Esther Waters (1948) Period drama, starring Dirk Bogarde.
3.15 **FILM** Gunpoint (1966) Western, starring Audie Murphy.
5.0 **FILM** Santa Fe

Passage (1955) Western adventure, starring John Payne. **6.50** **FILM** Junior (1994) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.
9.0 **FILM** Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008) Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford.
11.20 **FILM** Last Action Hero (1993) Comedy adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.
1.55 **FILM** Entertainment (2015) Drama, starring Gregg Turkington.

ITV2
6.0am World's Funniest Videos **6.25** World's Funniest Videos **7.0** Love Bites **8.0** Secret Crush **9.0** Veronica Mars **10.0** One Tree Hill **11.0** Hart of Dixie **12.0** Supermarket Sweep **1.0** Family Fortunes **2.0** The Masked Singer US **3.05** Veronica Mars **4.0** One Tree Hill **5.0** Hart of Dixie **6.0** Celebrity Catchphrase **7.0** Secret Crush **8.0** Bob's Burgers **8.30** Bob's Burgers **9.0** **FILM** 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003) **11.10** Family Guy **12.10** American Dad! **12.35** American Dad! **1.05** Bob's Burgers **1.30** Bob's Burgers **2.0** The Stand Up Sketch Show **2.30** The Stand Up Sketch Show **3.0** Teleshopping

Sky Max
6.0am Stargate SG-1 **8.0** The Flash **9.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **10.0** Supergirl **11.0** NCIS: New Orleans **1.0** Hawaii Five-0 **2.0** MacGyver **3.0** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **4.0** The Flash **5.0** Supergirl **6.0** Stargate SG-1 **8.0** Freddie Fries Again **9.0** Rob & Romesh vs NBA Basketball **10.0** A League of Their Own **11.0** Never Mind the Buzzcocks **11.45** The Russell Howard Hour **12.30** Banshee **1.35** The Blacklist **2.30** Road Wars **3.0** Hawaii Five-0 **4.0** MacGyver **5.0** Highway Patrol

Sky Arts
6.0am Beethoven: The Complete Symphonies **6.30** **FILM** André Rieu: Together Again (2021) **9.0** Tales of the



Unexpected **10.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **11.0** Discovering: Joan Fontaine **12.0** I, Claude Monet **1.0** Tales of the Unexpected **1.30** Sky Arts Book Club **2.30** Portrait Artist of the Year 2014 **4.0** Discovering: Richard Harris **5.0** Tales of the Unexpected **6.0** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **6.30** Alfred Hitchcock Presents **7.0** Classic Albums **8.0** Discovering: The Beach Boys **8.30** Brian Wilson Plays Baloise Session **10.30** Berlin Live: Blondie **11.50** The Ronnie Wood Show **12.20** The Ronnie Wood Show **12.50** Eric Clapton: Nothing But the Blues **3.05** Discovering: Eric Clapton **3.30** Discovering: Robert Donat **4.30** The Sky Arts Book Club Summer Reads Special

Sky Atlantic
6.0am Storm City **7.45** Boardwalk Empire **10.0** The Sopranos **12.15** Six Feet Under **2.25** Game of Thrones **3.30** Boardwalk Empire **5.45** The Sopranos **7.55** Game of Thrones **9.0** **Munich** **Games** **10.0** House of the Dragon **11.05** We Own This City **12.15** The Wire **3.30** In Treatment **4.0** Storm City

Radio

Radio 3
6.30am Breakfast **9.0** Essential Classics **12.0** Composer of the Week: Bruckner (5/5) **1.0** Lunchtime Concert. Mark Padmore sings Welsh folksong settings by Beethoven, the Wihan Quartet perform Dvořák's "American" Quartet, and Viktoria Mullova plays Beethoven's Violin Sonata No 4, Op 23. **2.0** Afternoon Concert. Music from summer festivals around Europe, including the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra performing Haydn, Mozart and Stravinsky. **4.30** The Listening Service (R) **5.0** In Tune **7.0** In Tune Mixtape **7.30** In Concert. At Edinburgh's Usher Hall, François-Xavier Roth conducts Les Siècles, soprano Véronique Gens, tenor Jérôme Behr and baritone Jean-Sébastien Bou in Boulanger's Faust et Hélène and Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring (original 1913 score). **10.0** The Verb **10.45** The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. Christopher Laing gives a personal account of how he started SignStrokes. (5/5) **11.0** Late Junction. An exclusive mixtape from the Lou Reed Archive. **1.0** Piano Flow

With Lianne La Havas (R) **2.0** Happy Harmonies With Laufey (R) **3.0** Through the Night

Radio 4
6.0am Today **8.31** (LW) Yesterday in Parliament **9.0** The Reunion (R) **9.45** (LW) Daily Service **9.45** (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man. By Edward Enninfu. (5/5) **10.0** Woman's Hour **11.0** Net Zero: A Very British Problem. Matt Winning reveals what lies ahead if Britain is to eliminate carbon emissions by 2050. (1/4) **11.30** Relativity. Ian and Chloe face up to the possibility that he has cancer. (3/6) **12.0** News **12.01** Shipping Forecast **12.04** Paul Verhoeven's American Future (R) **12.57** Weather **1.0** The World at One **1.45** The Boy in the Woods. How people turned out in their hundreds demanding justice. (5/10) **2.0** The Archers **2.15** Exemplar. Thriller, by Dan Rebellato and Ben and Max Ringham. Jess is forced to re-evaluate her childhood memories. (5/5) **2.45** Living With the Gods (R) **3.0** Gardeners' Question Time. Experts answer listeners' queries at RHS Rosemoor. **3.45** Short

Works. Last Time, by Rebecca Watson. **4.0** Last Word **4.30** More Or Less (R) **5.0** PM **5.54** (LW) Shipping Forecast **5.57** Weather **6.0** News **6.30** The News Quiz (2/7) **7.0** The Archers **7.15** Screenshot. Film magazine, with Ellen E Jones and Mark Kermode. (7/9) **8.0** Any Questions? **8.50** A Point of View **9.0** The Boy in the Woods Omnibus. Part one. **9.59** Weather **10.0** The World Tonight **10.45** Book at Bedtime: The Maid. By Nita Prose. (10/10) **11.0** Great Lives (R) **11.30** Today in Parliament **12.0** News **12.30** Book of the Week: A Visible Man (R) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.0** As World Service **5.20** Shipping Forecast **5.30** News **5.43** Prayer for the Day **5.45** Four Thought (R)

Radio 4 Extra
6.0am Death May Surprise Us (4/6) **6.30** Agatha Raisin (5/6) **7.0** Miracles R Us (1/4) **7.30** Ed Reardon's Week (4/6) **8.0** It Sticks Out Half a Mile (11/14) **8.30** Thirty Minutes Worth (5/6) **9.0** Say the Word (2/6) **9.30** The Circle (4/6) **10.0** Devonia (3/3) **10.45** Short Works **11.0** Podcast Radio Hour **12.0** It Sticks Out Half a Mile

(11/14) **12.30** Thirty Minutes Worth (5/6) **1.0** Death May Surprise Us (4/6) **1.30** Agatha Raisin (5/6) **2.0** Adventures of a Young Naturalist (5/5) **2.15** Eleanor Rising (5/5) **2.30** The Invisible College (2/3) **3.0** Devonia (3/3) **3.45** Short Works **4.0** Say the Word (2/6) **4.30** The Circle (4/6) **5.0** Miracles R Us (1/4) **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week (4/6) **6.0** The Slide (3/7) **6.30** Sounds Natural **7.0** It Sticks Out Half a Mile (11/14) **7.30** Thirty Minutes Worth (5/6) **8.0** Death May Surprise Us (4/6) **8.30** Agatha Raisin (5/6) **9.0** Podcast Radio Hour **10.0** Ed Reardon's Week (4/6) **10.30** Mitch Benn's Crimes Against Music (4/6) **11.0** What the Future? (3/4) **11.30** James Acaster's Perfect Sounds **12.0** The Slide (3/7) **12.30** Sounds Natural **1.0** Death May Surprise Us (4/6) **1.30** Agatha Raisin (5/6) **2.0** Adventures of a Young Naturalist (5/5) **2.15** Eleanor Rising (5/5) **2.30** The Invisible College (2/3) **3.0** Devonia (3/3) **3.45** Short Works **4.0** Say the Word (2/6) **4.30** The Circle (4/6) **5.0** Miracles R Us (1/4) **5.30** Ed Reardon's Week (4/6) *

Award-winning cleaning. Inflation-busting price!

SAVE £120

**JUST
£199^{.99}**

While stocks last

Halo | Capsule | TM

**“This vacuum
scored 100%
in all our pick
up tests.”**

Good Housekeeping



**Best of
British
Design**

**PERFECT
PERFORMANCE**



With more industry awards and 5 star ratings than you can shake a feather duster at, Halo Capsule has swept the board as well as the carpet when it comes to cleaning power and ultra-light weight. Finally, the freedom and ease of a cordless with the cleaning power of a corded.

Power at your fingertips for longer

Ultra-light thanks to its unique carbon fibre construction, the Halo Capsule weighs just 2.6kg yet has the equivalent cleaning power of a full-size vacuum. It won't quit on you half way through your cleaning either. The Halo keeps on going for over 60 minutes* before needing recharging. When combined with its huge 1.6L capacity, it means you can now deep clean the whole house in just one go. **Try doing that with any other cordless or with such speed and ease using a corded.** When you've finished, Halo's Dust Pouch enables you to get rid of the dirt without the usual dust and mess.



TRY RISK FREE FOR 30 DAYS
with our Satisfaction Guarantee

Awarded Which? Best Buy 3 Years in a Row



“The Halo is nothing short of Fantastic at cleaning.”

Our lowest ever priced bundle: Save over £120



**Stubborn
Dirt Brush**



**Crevice
Tool**



**6 Dust
Pouches**

**PLUS FREE
13 Compostable
Dust Pouches
WORTH
£13.99**



Includes free Delivery & 2-Year Warranty

Quote code **GUARD23**

Total RRP ~~£321.97~~ **NOW JUST £199^{.99}**
Get your free 13 Dust pouches with code **GUARD23**

Call on **0800 880 7272** or visit **capsuleclean.com**

2 year manufacturer's warranty including battery. *Run times quoted may vary depending on surfaces cleaned. Value £321.97 when purchased separately. Free Delivery to UK mainland addresses (including Highlands). Halo Appliances Ltd. Warwickshire, England. Voucher code has no individual cash value. Voucher code cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

Payment
plans available

Klarna.